

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

**Karaoke singers
try to break
world record**

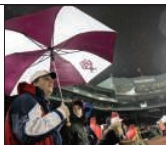
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Karaoke singer Rainer Möbius



**Poll: U.S. forces
believe Iraq war
effort understaffed**

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**Rainout aids
well-armed
Yankees**

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2004

\$1.00

In Iraq, U.S. treats all patients equally

Military nurses struggle between fear and duty
when administering care to war wounded Page 6



Maj. Patricia Born works in the emergency room at the Army's Ibn Sina Hospital in Baghdad. When the nurse sees both Iraqi and American casualties following a bombing or gunfire exchange, there's no way to tell who was injured how — the Iraqis could be either bystanders or insurgents.

WARD SANDERSON/Stars and Stripes

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Moore TV election special: A cable pay-per-view company has decided not to show a three-hour election eve special with filmmaker Michael Moore that included a showing of his documentary "Fahrenheit 9/11," which is sharply critical of President Bush.

The company, IN DEMAND, said Friday that its decision is due to "legitimate business and legal concerns." A spokesman would not elaborate.

Earlier this week, trade publications said Moore was close to a deal with IN DEMAND for "The Michael Moore Pre-Election Special," which also would include interviews with politically active celebrities and admonitions to vote. The Nov. 1 special was to be available for \$9.95.

Moore said Friday he signed a contract with the company in early September and is considering legal action. He said he believes IN DEMAND decided not to air the film because of pressure from "top Republican people."

Chicago bus crash: The bus involved in a fatal accident in Arkansas last weekend had extensive repairs made to its roof and body after an incident south of Chicago two years ago, federal authorities said Friday.

Gary Van Etten, the National Transportation Safety Board's lead investigator, would not describe details of the incident. He said it was not yet known whether the damage played any role in the Oct. 9 crash, which killed 14 people and injured 16.

NTSB officials previously said they were looking into why sheet metal had been glued and riveted to the bus' roof, adding 600 to 700 pounds to the vehicle's weight.

NASA crash landing: The NASA spacecraft that smashed into the Utah desert last month while bringing home fragile samples of the sun may have been doomed by engineering drawings that had been done backwards, an investigating board said Friday.

Because of the backward drawings, the switches that were supposed to detect Genesis' re-entry into Earth's atmosphere and trigger its parachutes were placed incorrectly, said Michael G. Ryschewitsch, chairman of the Mishap Investigation Board.

He emphasized, however, that the panel has not completed its findings on what went wrong with the \$264 million mission to capture particles of the solar wind.

The design drawings were produced by Lockheed Martin Astronautics, which built Genesis for NASA, Ryschewitsch said. How the mistake escaped detection is under investigation, he said.

Tagged shark: A great white shark that was tagged with a data-gathering device in shallow waters off Cape Cod has apparently reclaimed its privacy.

Researchers attached the device to the 14-foot, 1,700-pound female shark's dorsal fin on Sept. 23 using a six-foot spear. Gregory Skomal, Division of Marine Fisheries shark specialist, said it appeared the device became detached shortly after the fish was coaxed to open water Oct. 4.

It was the first time a great white has been tagged that way in the Atlantic, and shark experts had been excited about the prospective data, because very little is known about great whites' behavior in the Atlantic, the Cape Cod Times reported.



Albanian bus crash: Members of the Kosovo Protection Corps stand guard in front of the coffins of 15 Albanian high school students Saturday during their funeral in the central Kosovo town of Malisevo. Tens of thousands of mourners participated in the funeral for the students, who were killed in a bus crash that sent their vehicle tumbling over a cliff.

Michael Jackson legal shake-up: An attorney who has represented Michael Jackson for more than a decade has left the pop star's defense team, Jackson announced Friday.

Steve Cochran took a "temporary leave of absence" from the team defending Jackson from child molestation charges but will continue to "collaborate" with lead attorney Thomas Mesereau Jr., Jackson said.

CIA identity leaks: President Bush's top political adviser, Karl Rove, testified for more than two hours Friday before a grand jury considering charges stemming from the investigation of the leak of a CIA agent's identity to the news media, White House officials said.

Rove is the latest White House aide called before the grand jury, which is considering whether to bring charges against a former official for releasing the name of the CIA agent, Valerie Plame, to journalist Robert Novak.

Martha Stewart in jail: Martha Stewart said on Friday that she has adjusted to prison life and is keeping busy behind bars since reporting a week ago to a federal penal camp in West Virginia, where she is serving a five-month sentence for lying about a stock sale.

The celebrity homemaker said she was touched by the outpouring of support she has received from millions of people who have visited her Web site, according to a letter posted by Stewart on www.marthataalks.com.

Libel lawsuit: The New York Times asked a federal judge Friday to dismiss a libel lawsuit against the paper filed by a bioterrorism expert named by the FBI as a "person of interest" in the 2001 anthrax attacks.

Times attorney David Schulz told the judge that no reasonable reader would walk

away from the columns in question with the impression that the newspaper was accusing Steven J. Hatfill of any crimes.

Business

Tyco lawsuit: A federal judge in Concord, N.H., says shareholders can go ahead with a class action suit against Tyco International.

The suit alleges accounting fraud and looting by former top executives. Shareholders are seeking damages from Tyco, former CEO Dennis Kozlowski, former chief financial officer Mark Swartz, and Tyco's former auditors, Price-Waterhouse-Coopers.

Kozlowski and Swartz are awaiting retrial in federal court in New York on charges of stealing \$600 million from the company.

War on terrorism

Prison abuse scandal: An Army reservist charged with abusing Iraqis at the Abu Ghraib prison will plead guilty to four offenses in Baghdad, his lawyer said Friday, making him the second soldier to plead guilty in the scandal.

Staff Sgt. Ivan L. "Chip" Frederick, 38, on Wednesday will admit to assault, mistreatment, a detainee, committing an indecent act and dereliction of duty. Gary Myers said in a telephone interview from his home in New Hampshire. Eight other counts Frederick faces stemming from alleged abuses of Abu Ghraib detainees will be dropped, Myers said.

World

Fujimori extradition battle: Peru's ambassador to Japan expressed hope Saturday that Japan will extradite disgraced former President Alberto Fujimori to face murder and embezzlement charges. Fujimori, meanwhile, said Lima's requests for custody showed he was a victim of "political persecution."

Fujimori has been in self exile in Japan since fleeing his homeland in November 2000 as his government crumbled amid a corruption scandal. Fujimori, the son of Japanese immigrants, has been shielded from extradition by Japanese citizenship granted to him after his arrival.

Indonesian terror investigation: A man who fled after he was injured in a small explosion in a house on Indonesia's Java island has links to the suicide bomber in last month's Australian Embassy blast, a top detective said Saturday.

Police are searching for an 18-year-old they called Abdullah, who allegedly kept in contact with Herti Golum — a man identified by DNA testing and a suicide letter he left for his family before the Sept. 9 car bombing that killed nine people outside the embassy in Jakarta.

North Korean refugees: A group of 20 people who claimed to be North Koreans entered the grounds of the South Korean consulate in Beijing on Friday in a bid to seek asylum, news reports said.

The group of six males and 14 females entered the consulate around 6 a.m., said YTN, an all-news cable channel, and other South Korean news media.

YTN footage showed the intruders crawling under a barbed-wire perimeter fence at pre-dawn dusk. They then climbed over a wall topped with barbed wire into the consulate compound.

Officials at South Korea's Foreign Ministry declined to confirm the reports, but said there would be an official announcement later. Officials in Beijing were not immediately available for comment.

Stories and photos from wire reports

Rove

Katterbach mourns GI killed in car crash

By STEVE LIEWER

Stars and Stripes

Hardly anyone can remember Cpl. Brent Rooks without a smile on his face and a wrench in his hand, tinkering away under the hood of his car.

"He was a great mechanic who took great pride and ownership in his job," said Chaplain (Capt.) Kenneth Gesch. "He was very responsible. He was always helping others."

When Rooks, 28, of the 6th Battalion, 52nd Air Defense Artillery, wasn't working on a car, he was usually driving around Germany in one — quite often with his close friend, Sgt. Maurice Paul, a German army soldier.

It was together that the two

Army mechanic remembered as all-around great guy

men died Oct. 9, in a single-car accident near Blaubeuren, in the southern German state of Baden-Württemberg.

Dozens of Rooks' friends from the 6-52 ADA packed the chapel in Katterbach Friday afternoon — along with Paul's parents — to remember him and mourn his loss.

Rooks grew up in Kingston, Wash., northwest of Seattle, the son of a Navy veteran. After earning a high school diploma and attending community college, he too, joined the Navy. He served five years aboard the USS Alabama, a Trident nuclear subma-

rine based just a few miles from his home. As a crewmember, he earned recognition for stopping a secrecy violator who was trying to board the ship.

Two years later, Rooks re-enlisted — this time in the Army, as mechanic. In November 2003, he arrived with Battery E of the 6-52 ADA, as a shop foreman and section chief in charge of six soldiers. Earlier this year, his tool truck was selected as the best in V Corps.

What Rooks friends recall, though, is a soldier who loved to laugh and who would help anyone at a moment's notice.

Spc. Detlev Johnson called him

"an all-around person who would always help anybody, anytime, including driving to the airport or to the Shopette. He would help repair other soldiers' cars if they asked him, without hesitation."

His commanding officer, Capt. David Dee, recalled how one of the battery's trucks broke down the night before an inspection.

"He jumped on the vehicle and worked all night," Dee said. "I spoke with him about midnight and asked if he needed anything. He just looked up at me and said, 'Don't worry, sir, I'll fix it.' And he did."

In his spare time, Rooks was an active member of a German car

club and had quickly picked up the German language. Friends said he studied history and loved to visit local historical sites.

"He enjoyed life so much, and he lived it to the fullest," said Pfc. Bobby Coon.

After the playing of taps, his friends lined up to salute Rooks' helmet, rifle, dog tags and boots. Almost no one walked away dry-eyed.

"He displayed selfless service, and a desire to learn," Dee said in his tribute. "If we all emulated Cpl. Rooks, the world would be a much better place."

Rooks is survived by his parents, Dennis and Sandra Rooks of Port Ludlow, Wash., and two sisters, Tracy and Michelle.

Steve Liewer at: liewers@mail.espressosd.mil

Karaoke fans croon away in attempt to break record

By JESSICA INIGO

Stars and Stripes

DARMSTADT, Germany — The An Sibin, an Irish pub frequented by many American and U.S. troops, has sung its way into the Guinness World Records ... maybe.

A group of 20 singers started its world record attempt at 10 a.m. Sunday. At 6 p.m. Friday — 128 hours later — they finally gave their vocal chords a break.

Several Americans, along with German, Greek, Irish, English, and Russian karaoke stars out-sung the old record of 80 nonstop hours by a bar in England.

However, it may be a while before they actually see their name in print, according to karaoke contest organizer Wolfgang "Stritti" Strittmatter. The whole event was put on videotape, and 35 videocassettes have to be sent to Guinness for review before they are named the new record holders.

"It's like in the Olympics. Sometimes, after a review, the medal is removed from the athlete. It doesn't matter, though, because we had so much fun doing it," said Strittmatter,



PHOTOS BY JESSICA INIGO/Stars and Stripes

Wolfgang "Stritti" Strittmatter leads some of the karaoke singers who helped in the attempt to break a Guinness World Record on Friday at the An Sibin Irish pub in Darmstadt, Germany. In the sixth-straight day of nonstop singing, the group sings Queen's "We Are the Champions."

who originally brought up the idea of the karaoke contest as a joke.

The event turned out to be no laughing matter. Participants had to adhere to strict rules imposed by Guinness, which included no more than 30-second lag time between each song, the same song couldn't be repeated within a four-hour cycle, participants had to sing actual lyrics, and songs had to be sung in its original format.

Participants had to be at the pub an hour before their performance to ensure the smooth transition from one singer to the next.

"The hardest day for me was Tuesday," explained Kevin Dukes, who sang between 10 to 12 hours throughout the week. On Tuesday he sang from 2 to 5 a.m., partially covering for another participant who got sick; then came on later from 8 to 9 a.m. He went to his home just outside of Darmstadt for some food and rest until his next performance from 7 to 8 p.m. and then he was on again Wednesday morning at 2 a.m.

Dukes said during the six-day event a couple of singers got so hoarse they could no longer participate, but others were so committed that they slept on wooden pub benches to ensure the competition didn't miss a beat.

An Sibin staffed the pub 24 hours a day

throughout the contest, helping to ensure participants stayed motivated.

"My job was a matter of keeping everyone awake with endless coffee," said Oisin McLaughlin, who worked the graveyard shift nightly from 2 to 10 a.m.

Because of the importance of getting the timing right, a list of singers was compiled before the event, making some of the regular Thursday karaoke visitors to the pub a little peeved they couldn't join in on the fun.

"It was a very organized operation about who was singing, but we still tried to sneak some Americans in who always come to karaoke on Thursdays. It was hard though, and people were nervous, because the timing had to be just right," said Vince Hannifan, one of the owners of An Sibin.

He said the following Thursdays would be back to normal, where everyone could participate in karaoke action.

As far as getting put in the famous record book, Hannifan said it'll be a fitting title.

"Irish beer, Irish pub, Irish beer record book. It's very appropriate and it'll be in print forever."

Jessica Inigo at: inigoj@mail.espressosd.mil

Contest to showcase teen talent

By RICK EMERT

Stars and Stripes

Teens who are tired of Lindsay Lohan and Hilary Duff getting all the press can show off their own talents in the Army Europe Teen Battle of the Bands and Stars of Tomorrow competition.

The event takes place at 2 p.m. Nov. 13 at The Zone in Hohenfels, Germany.

Interested in performing must sign up through their local teen centers or Child and Youth Services at any U.S. installation in Europe by Nov. 5. Any teen aged 12 to 18 and registered in CYS can participate, but the event is limited to six slots for bands and 18 slots for individuals, according to Heidi Fedak, marketing account executive for the 282nd Base Support Battalion, Hohenfels.

The band competition has categories for best of show, best vocalist, best drummer, best guitarist and best bass guitarist. The Stars of Tomorrow portion has categories in best male and female vocalists, best duet, best instrumental solo and best specialty act.

At least three judges will select the top performers in each category.

The first place prize for best of show is \$500. For individual categories, the top prize is \$75, Fedak said.

Each winner's community youth service office also will get a cash award, Fedak said.

Although the Army Europe Battle of the Bands competition has had a teen category in the past, this is the first time the event has been held strictly for teenagers, Fedak said.

For more information about the competition, contact Kay Berube, Hohenfels Teen Center, at civilian 49-9472-83-4492 or DSN 466-4492.

Rick Emert at: emert@mail.espressosd.mil



Rainer Möbius, who was the final singer in the 128-hour karaoke contest, finished up with Johnny Cash's "A Boy Named Sue" on Friday.

Pol: Troops have doubts on Iraq strategy

Majority say war effort understaffed but oppose draft

BY WILL LESTER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Members of the U.S. military and their families say the Bush administration underestimated the number of troops needed in Iraq and put too much pressure on inadequately trained National Guard and reserve forces, according to a poll released Saturday.

The National Annenberg Election Survey found that 62 percent in the military sample said the administration should send an adequate number of troops to Iraq. And 59 percent said too much of a burden has been put on the National Guard and the reserves when regular forces should have been expanded instead.

Family members were more critical of the administration's Iraq policy than those on active duty.

This critical view comes from a military group that has a more favorable view of President Bush, Iraq, the economy and the nation's direction than Americans in general.

A slight majority of the military and families, 51 percent, said showing photos of flag-draped coffins being returned to the United States would increase respect for the troops.

The Pentagon has refused to release government photos of the coffins, saying it has begun enforcing a policy installed in 1991 intended to respect the privacy of the families of the dead soldiers.

On other military matters:

■ Four in 10, 42 percent, said gays and

lesbians should be allowed to serve openly in the military, and 50 percent said no. Family members narrowly supported the idea, while those in the active military opposed it.

■ One-fourth said the military draft should be reinstated, three-fourths said no. That is about the same level of opposition to the draft in the general population.

■ Six in 10 of the regular military in the sample said they were properly trained and equipped.

■ Only four in 10 of the Guard members and reservists questioned said they were properly trained and equipped.

■ The military sample overwhelmingly approved of the work of women in the

armed forces. Three-fourths said they performed as well as the men they work with.

■ Eight in 10 said soldiers responsible for the Abu Ghraib prison abuse and their immediate commanders should be punished. Half said higher-level commanders should be punished and three in 10 said civilians in the Pentagon should be punished.

The poll of 655 in the active military (both regulars and reserves) and their families was taken Sept. 22-Oct. 5 and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Their answers were compared with those of 2,436 adults surveyed Sept. 7-Oct. 3 with a margin of error of plus or minus 2 percentage points.

AF wife guilty of killing husband at Turkey base

BY DAVID ROSENZWEIG
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — An Air Force spouse accused of fatally stabbing her husband in their quarters on a military base in Turkey was convicted of voluntary manslaughter Friday by a Los Angeles federal court jury.

Latasha Arnt, 24, of Moreno Valley, Calif., faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison. The same jury acquitted her of second-degree murder, which carries a maximum life sentence. Arnt was the first person to be prosecuted under the Military Extrajurisdiction Jurisdiction Act, which provides for civilians who accompany military personnel abroad to be returned to the United States for trial if the host country declines to prosecute.

The law, which was enacted in 2000, closed a loophole that allowed some American civilians to go unpunished for serious crimes committed overseas.

This was Arnt's second trial in the death of her husband, Staff Sgt. Matthias A. Arnt III, a 24-year-old military police officer.

er at Incirlik Air Base. A mistrial was declared in July after a jury deadlocked with a 7-5 split for acquittal.

Arnt testified that she grabbed a steak knife and stabbed her husband in self-defense as he was about to punch her in the face during an argument in their small apartment on the air base on May 26, 2003.

Prosecutors contended that she killed him in an act of rage and jealousy after discovering love letters and a sexy photo that a former girlfriend recently had sent to him at his request.

Arnt denied that was the reason. She said her husband had returned home drunk from a party. In an ensuing argument, she said, she told him that she was fed up with his drinking and planned to return to the United States with their infant daughter.

After the verdict, U.S. District Judge Percy Anderson ordered Arnt taken into custody. But he agreed to hear a defense motion Wednesday to allow her to remain free on bail until she is sentenced Jan. 31.

Russia signs deal to establish military base in Tajikistan

BY BRIAN HERMAN
The Associated Press

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Russian President Vladimir Putin cemented Moscow's military presence in the former Soviet republic of Tajikistan, signing a deal Saturday to establish a permanent base for troops deployed there since before the Soviet collapse.

Putin said Russia would strengthen its military contingent in the country after he and Tajik President Emomali Rahmonov signed the agreement creating the base for Russia's 5,000-strong 201st Motorized Rifle Division. The division fought in Afghanistan after the 1979 Soviet invasion before retreating to Tajikistan in 1989.

The base in the Tajik capital

Dushanbe is part of Russia's attempts to reassert its influence in the energy-rich Central Asia in response to the United States' higher profile in the region since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Putin praised the "strategic partnership," Russia's ITAR-Tass news agency reported.

Rahmonov praised the agreement for "lifting a weight" from impoverished Tajikistan to foster future economic development.

Most of the money Russia has promised under the deal will fund two large hydroelectric stations and an aluminum factory.

U.S. troops are deployed across Central Asia for operations in Afghanistan. Last year, Russia opened a base in neighboring Kyrgyzstan — its first base abroad since the Soviet collapse.

With thanks



JOE M. BATTLE/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Soldiers and Marines currently staying at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center Medical Detachment at Kleber Kaserne, Germany, hold a framed T-shirt with signatures from more than 500 wounded servicemembers. The shirt was presented to the World Wrestling Entertainment Corporation during a show in Frankfurt on Oct. 9. The T-shirt was presented to the WWE in gratitude for its donation of more than \$25,000 worth of merchandise that was handed out to patients at the hospital.

Store asks shoppers to pick favorite books

BY MARNI MCENTREE
Stars and Stripes

Spongdaheim's Bookmark store is taking a novel approach to stocking its shelves.

Christopher Boylan, who runs the store inside Spongdaheim's Bxtra, is circulating a survey asking readers to pick their favorite book and author.

The survey will be available through Nov. 15. Boylan will then order the top 10 books from the survey and highlight them in the store.

"I hope that this survey can act as a vehicle to propel the readers to discuss books and reading with their friends and co-workers," Boylan said. "Discussion is a book's best advertisement."

Customers can pick the survey up at the Spongdaheim Bxtra Bookmark, the base's main BX, and

at the main store and Bxtra at Bitburg. It also is available at the same stores on posts in Chievres, Belgium, and Schinnen, The Netherlands, he said.

Boylan, of Seattle, started working at the store three months ago. Since then he's started a number of new programs to help expand his customers' access to a variety of books.

He has developed a customer interest program designed to let people know about customers' and employees' favorite books. Every month, he writes an essay about a classic author, then features the author's work in a special section.

He also set up a "knowledge table" where he highlights books under certain themes.

"The current theme is theoretical physics, which have sold surprisingly well," Boylan, 26, said.

E-mail Marni McEntree at: mcentree@mail.strips.esd.mil

Car bombs kill 4 GIs; insurgents hit churches

BY TINI TRAN

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Explosions hit five Christian churches in Baghdad on Saturday and the U.S. command said four more American troops were killed by car bombs as violence flared as Iraqi Muslims began marking the holy month of Ramadan.

Mortar shells exploded Saturday near Ibn al-Bitar hospital, killing one employee and wounding three others, and in the parking lot of the Mansour Hotel, which houses the Chinese embassy and is home to foreign diplomats and journalists. No one was killed in the hotel attack.

In a sign of hope, community leaders in the rebel stronghold of Fallujah offered Saturday to resume peace talks with the government if U.S. forces stop their attacks on the city and free their chief negotiator.

Homemade bombs exploded in quick succession before dawn Saturday at the five churches in four separate neighborhoods, causing no casualties but further alarming the Christian minority community already on edge over the perceived rise of Islamic militancy following last year's ouster of Saddam Hussein.

In August, coordinated attacks hit four churches in Baghdad and one in Mosul, killing at least 12 people and wounding dozens more in the first significant strike against Iraq's estimated 800,000 Christians since the U.S. invasion began last year.

"It is a criminal act to make Iraq unstable and to create religious difficulties,"

Rev. Zaya Yousef of St. George's Church said of the latest attacks. "But this will not happen because we all live together like brothers in this country through sadness and happiness."

No group claimed responsibility for the attacks, which were condemned by the Association of Muslim Scholars, a Sunni clerical group believed to have ties to some insurgents.

"Islam doesn't support the ongoing terrorism," Sheikh Abdul Sattar Abdul-Jabbar of the Association said.

Three U.S. troops — two soldiers and one Marine — were killed Friday when a car bomb exploded near Qaim, an insurgent hotspot along the Syrian border, the U.S. command said. One Iraqi interpreter was also killed.

A fourth soldier, assigned to Task Force Olympia, died of injuries suffered Friday during a car bombing in the northern city of Mosul, 225 miles north of Baghdad, the U.S. command said Saturday.

U.S. commanders have warned of a possible upsurge in rebel attacks during Ramadan, when insurgent activity surged last year.

Ramadan, the month of fasting and prayer, is marked by greater religious fervor, and some extremists believe they win a special place in paradise if they die fighting non-Muslims during the holy month.

In hopes of preventing rebel attacks, U.S. troops have stepped up military operations in Sunni areas north and west of the capital. The operations included two days of air and ground attacks Thursday and Friday against the main rebel bastion Fallujah.

On Saturday, Fallujah clerics said they were ready to resume peace talks with the government if the Americans suspended attacks and released the city's chief negotiator, Sheikh Khaled al-Jumeili, who was arrested Friday.

Talks broke down Thursday because of what the clerics said was the government's "impossible condition" — handing over Jordanian teacher mastermind Abu Musab al-Zarqawi and other "terrorists."

The clerics said al-Zarqawi was not in the city, a claim that U.S. and Iraqi authorities dispute.

There was no response from the government to the clerics' offer; however there were no U.S. airstrikes reported around the city Saturday. But the U.S. military said Marines tightened their security cordon around Fallujah, establishing checkpoints to keep suspected terrorists from fleeing the area, located about 40 miles west of Baghdad.

Meanwhile, the U.S. military extended the deadline for Shiite militiamen to turn in their weapons in the Baghdad district of Sadr City. Friday had been the deadline for militiamen loyal to radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr to exchange guns for cash under a deal to end weeks of fighting with U.S. troops there. The new deadline was Sunday, the military said.

Once the handover is complete, the U.S. military will verify that no major weapons caches remain and Iraqi forces will assume responsibility for security in Sadr City. The Americans hope the deal will enable them to focus on the more dangerous Sunni Muslim insurgency.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Friday, 1,086 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 830 died as a result of hostile action and 256 died of nonhostile causes.

The figures include three military civilians.

The British military has reported 67 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, six; Slovakia, three; Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 948 U.S. military members have died — 721 as a result of hostile action and 227 of nonhostile causes, according to the military's numbers as of Friday.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ No deaths reported.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ Army Spc. Ronald W. Baker, 34, Cabot, Ark.; died Wednesday in Landstuhl, Germany, of injuries received from a car bomb Oct. 7 in Taji, Iraq; assigned to the 39th Support Battalion, Arkansas National Guard, Lenoire, Ark.

■ Army Spc. Jeremy F. Regnier, 22, Littleton, N.H.; died Wednesday in Baghdad, when an explosive detonated near his patrol; assigned to the 4th Battalion, 5th Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

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Based on the book about high school football by H.G. Bissinger, Friday Night Lights chronicles the entire 1988 season of the Permian High Panthers of Odessa, Texas, with football players, coaches, mothers, fathers, boosters, fans and families struggling with ongoing personal conflicts while the team fights for state championship.

PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13



HOPE COMES ALIVE
ON FRIDAY NIGHTS

BILLY BOB THORNTON, DEREK LUKE

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

AAFESE

Showtimes are subject to change. Please check your local theater or aafes.com to verify show dates.

clip & save

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

Show dates are approximate. Check your local theater or aafes.com for exact show dates and times.

Adana	11-23 Dec
Arisano	03-09 Dec
Bahenhausen	03-09 Dec
Salad	29 Oct-04 Nov
Bamberg	05-11 Nov
Baumholder	19-25 Nov
Bitburg	03-09 Dec
Camp Doha	19-25 Nov
Darmstadt	26 Nov-02 Dec
Deuxheim	12-18 Nov
Friedberg	10-16 Dec
Grielsstadt	26 Nov-02 Dec
Grafenwohr	05-11 Nov
Hanau	29 Oct-04 Nov
Heidelberg	05-11 Nov
Hohenfels	12-18 Nov
Ilshausen	26 Nov-02 Dec
Kallertbach	19-25 Nov
Kitzingen	19-25 Nov
Kosproz	10-16 Dec
Lakenheath	05-11 Nov
Mannheim	29 Oct-04 Nov
Mildenhall	29 Oct-04 Nov
Ramstein Hercules	12-18 Nov
Ramstein Nightingale	05-11 Nov
Rhein Main	19-25 Nov
Schweinfurt	12-18 Nov
Saengerheim	26 Nov-02 Dec
Tarifa	24-30 Dec
Vainlingen	12-18 Nov
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AAFESE

Even at war, nurses governed by humanity

Hospitals care for troops and Iraqis who injured them

BY WARD SANDERSON

Stars and Stripes

BAGHDAD — The light was the sad blue-green that all hospitals seem to have, and Capt. Batina Sundem smiled through it toward Mohammed.

Mohammed was wrapped in yellow plastic that kept his protruding intestines from drying out. Sundem seemed sunny despite the pallid light.

Chirpily, she asked Mohammed if he was her friend. He weakly shook his head. Would he be her friend she gave him water? Yes. That he would do.

Mohammed had blown a hole in his belly trying to build a bomb to kill U.S. soldiers.

"It went off in his face," Sundem said. "It was really a bad day for him."

This is normal for the nurses of Hussein Sina Hospital, once Saddam Hussein's private center and now the Army's busy facility in Baghdad. Caring for American troops and the insurgents with whom they fight drains nurses and twists their insides around like gauze.

They must treat all patients the same.

The most severely injured must be treated first, regardless of nationality. The nurses work 12 hours a day, six days a week. And some struggle with fears that time spent mending enemies might deplete energy they could use to heal their own soldiers.

Nurses who work exclusively with prisoners rotate to the GI ward after six months; it's just too much. Nurses in the emergency room and intensive care unit see all patients before they've ever been sorted into bad guy or good.

Sundem tries to stabilize patients before they can go home, to prison or to another hospital. Sometimes she sees terminal soldiers back to Germany, and there they will die. But at least they will see their families one last time.

To cope with the insurgents behind that, Sundem focuses on the Golden Rule and on her husband, a Ranger deployed to the Middle East six times since Sept. 11, 2001. She hoped a nurse would take care of him were he ever captured.

She looked at Mohammed, the failed bomber. She said he, too, could be someone's father, someone's husband.

"I've been a nurse for 14 years, and I've never seen the devastation I've seen here," Sundem said. "It's a downer. It's literally man's inhumanity to man. It's war."

Down the hall padded the small feet of another local, Dihar Aljazy, 5, struggled behind her walker. She moved slowly but he did not strain.

"You're doing good," Capt. Leslie Goodwin said, waving a floppy doll in front of the girl.

Bandits shot Dihar in the back seven months ago.



PHOTOS BY WARD SANDERSON/Stars and Stripes

Above: Capt. Leslie Goodwin, an intensive care nurse at the Army hospital in Baghdad, helps Dihar Aljazy, 5, learn to walk again after bandits shot her in the back. Her grandmother, Jammala, center, says Americans "deserve more gratitude from our side." **Right:** Nurses 1st Lt. Jill Schroeder, left, and Capt. Batina Sundem discuss the care of their patient, an insurgent whose homemade bomb blew up in his hands.

"The doctors here, they made this little kid walk," said her grandmother, Jammala, draped in black. "... You people are helping us a lot. You deserve more gratitude from our side. We haven't seen help from anyone else. We wish you were here five, 10, 20 years ago."

Nurse Goodwin has seen other sentiments.

Children have made bombs and acted as decoys for insurgents. In the hospital, "They seem so passive. And here you were, making a bomb."

Ramadan is beginning, and the nurses are worried. Any special date could bring more bombs, more bullets, more business.

Maj. Patricia Born, acting head nurse in the emergency room, treats troops and locals just off the streets of urban warfare. When they arrive she doesn't know who locals are and how they were hurt.

"I think it's difficult because we see a lot of mortal injuries, and people who will be disabled, soldiers and Marines," she said. "I didn't know how I'd respond to seeing the person who shot them."

Others are locals injured in the crossfire.

Some of the Iraqi injured who later turn out to be insurgents come in looking angry and hard. The eyes of the young, though, go wide with fear.

"They come as young as 9 years old," said Born, who is 57 and a grandmother.

Other children may be members of Iraqi families who drove through military checkpoints and were shot by soldiers fearing suicide bombers.

On a busy day, emergency nurses must treat the injured in the hallway.

"Sometimes," Born said, "it's overwhelming."

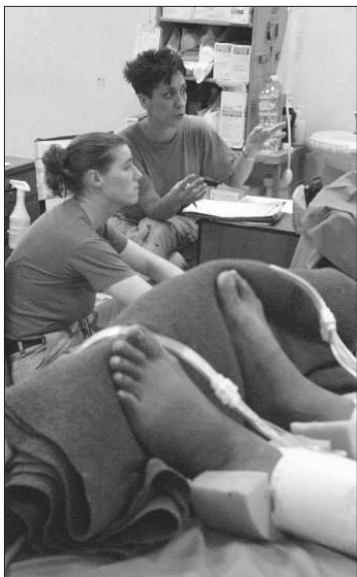
Though their mission is to treat everyone the same, feeling the same about everyone is not easy. If patients survive the ER they may see Spc. Steve Hodgkins, who works in intensive care.

After a few moments, Hodgkins' voice loses its clinical detachment and takes on an aching note of conflict over the cost of being so humane.

"When it comes to taking care of insurgents, bad guys, I think I'm part of the process that returns them to what doing whatever they were doing," he said.

He's heard stories of insurgents recovering, somehow being released, then winding up attacking troops again. Some bite, spit and throw containers of urine at nurses.

SEE NURSES ON PAGE 8



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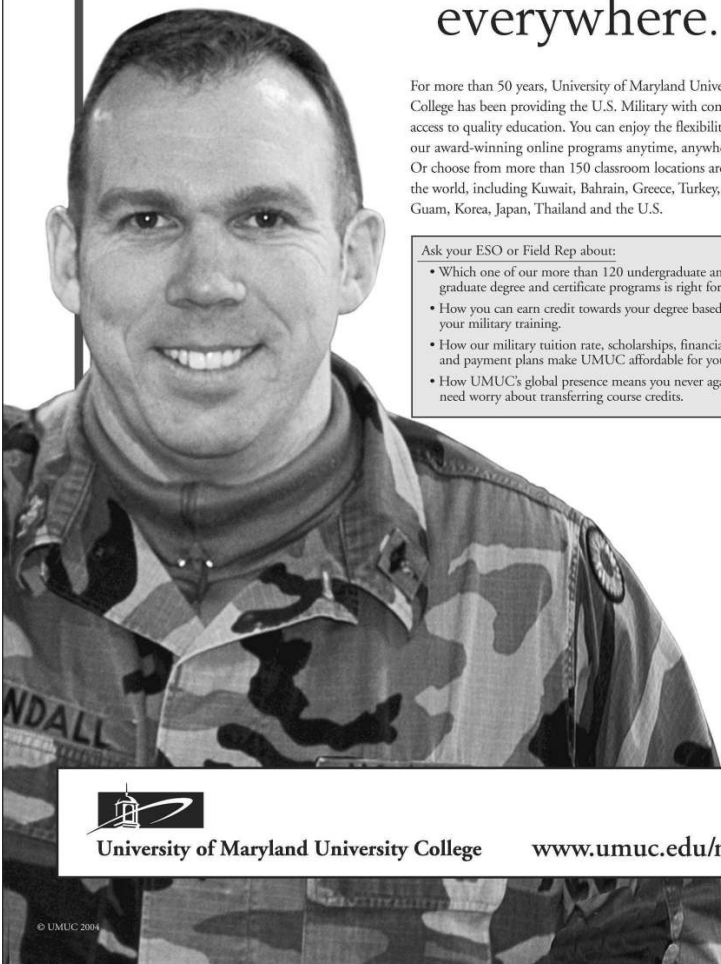
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Cs investigated for refusing Iraq mission

Company in stand-down after 19 reserve soldiers do not report for fueling convoy at Tallil Air Base

BY JULIANA GITTER

Stars and Stripes

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq — Army investigators are trying to determine why 19 soldiers from a fuel platoon failed to appear for a convoy mission Wednesday at Tallil Air Base in southern Iraq.

According to an Army report, some members of the 343rd Quartermaster Company, refused to participate in the morning convoy. Relatives of the soldiers say they refused the mission because of safety concerns.

The company, a South Carolina-based reserve unit with members from several states, delivers fuel and water in tankers. Other soldiers from the company completed the mission hours later, according to an Army statement.

The supply route the soldiers were to have used is known as "Main Supply Route Tampa," according to an Associated Press report. Many soldiers have been wounded by roadside bombs and rifle and rocket-propelled grenade fire, the AP reported.

The 343rd Quartermaster Com-

pany has come under fire but has not suffered casualties since it arrived in March, according to Maj. Richard Spiegel, spokesman for the 13th Corps Support Command.

On Wednesday, 19 members of the platoon did not show up for a scheduled 7 a.m. meeting to prepare for a convoy mission a few hours later, according to the military statement.

A coalition spokesman in Baghdad told the AP that "a small number of the soldiers involved chose to express their concerns in an inappropriate manner, causing a temporary breakdown in discipline."

Army investigators led by 13th COSCOM deputy commander Col. Darrell Roll traveled to Tallil on Thursday to begin an investigation. It is not believed that all 19 refused duty, Spiegel told Stars and Stripes. He could not discuss the details of the investigation until it is concluded.

The incident is also being investigated by the 30th Area Support Group, of which the 343rd is a part, for possible violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The soldiers have been asked to remain in their compound but are not under arrest or detainment, Spiegel said. Some of the soldiers have been moved to new quarters, which is not unusual in an investigation, he added.

According to the military statement, "initial indication is that the soldiers scheduled for the convoy mission raised some valid concerns and the command is addressing them."

Brig. Gen. James E. Chambers, 13th COSCOM commander, directed the company to complete a safety and maintenance stand-down after the incident to check all vehicles and conduct retraining.

Spiegel said investigators will look at whether the soldiers who did not appear for duty actually refused the mission.

"We don't know if, or how many, people did this," he said.

Other units will take over fuel delivery while the 343rd is in its stand-down. Every day, 13th COSCOM has 250 to 300 convoys on Iraqi roads, Spiegel said.

E-mail Juliana Gitter at: gitterj@pstripes.osd.mil

Relatives: Safety concerns prompted soldiers' refusal

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Relatives of soldiers who failed to report for a mission to deliver supplies in Iraq say the troops considered the mission too dangerous, in part because their vehicles were in poor shape.

The Army is investigating up to 19 reserve members of a platoon that is part of the 343rd Quartermaster Company, based in Rock Hill, S.C. The unit delivers food, water and fuel on trucks in combat zones.

Teresa Hill of Dothan, Ala., who said her daughter, Amber McClenny, was among those in the platoon, received a phone message from her early Thursday morning saying they had been detained by U.S. military authorities.

"This is a real, real, big emergency," McClenny said in her message. "I need you to contact someone. I mean, raise pure hell."

McClenny said in her message that her platoon had refused to go on a fuel-hauling convoy to Taj, north of Baghdad.

"We had broken-down trucks, nonarmored vehicles and, um, we were carrying contaminated fuel. They are holding us against our will. We are now prisoners," she said.

McClenny said they are facing punishment ranging from a reprimand to a charge of mutiny.

Staff Sgt. Christopher Stokes, a 37-year-old chemical engineer from Charlotte, N.C., went to Iraq with the 343rd but had to come home because of an injury. He said reservists were given inferior equipment and tensions in the company had been building since they were deployed in February.

"It wasn't really safe," he said. "The vehicles are not all that up to par anyway. The armor that they have is homemade. It's not really armor. It's like little steel rails."

Nurses: In Iraq military hospitals, friends and foes treated equally

NURSES, FROM PAGE 6

Other times, an insurgent does a 180, telling Hodgkins he now loves America, he can't believe how well they treated him here, he's so sorry.

Hodgkins, who often lowered his eyes as he spoke, nonetheless fears the following scenario: He spends several units of a type of blood trying to save an Iraqi who dies anyway. Then a GI comes in, needing 12 units of that same type. Only 10 remain.

This evokes Hodgkins' memory of the shattered soldier who, after being bombed, needed no shrapnel removed from his arm, but shards of bone that were once his friend.

This can harden a man. Then Hodgkins will treat an Iraqi child who witnessed his parents machine-gunned to death, and he melts again. Or the parents murder the thief shot while robbing a mosque, and how the thief was relieved to discover the object of surgery was to fix his wounded leg, not to cut off his hand.

These feelings clash. They don't corrupt.

"I try not to think about it that much," Hodgkins said, "because I'm a good nurse, and I will not let my true my humanity."

Capt. Laura Ricardo, who wears hats from spokeswoman to clinic head nurse, said she could relate. She's held a broken soldier's hand and felt anger toward those who hurt him. Then she asked herself, what if I were born poor and in Baghdad? How would I behave? What would I believe?

"That person is just important in God's eyes," Ricardo decided.



WARD SANDERSON/Stars and Stripes

Maj. Phil Spinella, a doctor, and Capt. Lisa Breece, a nurse, care for an injured Iraqi baby at the Army's Ibn Sina Hospital in Baghdad.

The nurses, though, are tired. "You can't go full-tilt, boogie-woogie, six days a week and not burn out," Hodgkins said.

An officer agreed. "Just about every day we were holding an American who was dying," said 1st Lt. Jill Schroeder, snuffing as she remembered April, when the fighting was especially terrible.

Recently an insurgent complained that Schroeder hadn't faired him enough in the heat. She said she treats three or four Iraqis for every American.

"They shouldn't be here," she

said of the locals. "They should go to the Iraqi hospital. Granted, it's crap."

Everyone wants to be treated by the Americans, she said. But after nearly a year here, the healers who treat insurgents like Mohammed, the failed bomber, may need healing themselves. The pain of the heart is less apparent than that of an opened belly, but it aches all the same.

"All of us are sick," Schroeder, said, voice breaking. "In the past 21 days, I've had two days off. For a nurse, that's too much."

E-mail reporter Ward Sanderson at: sandersonw@mail.strips.osd.mil

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FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION/AP

A group from St. Paul, Minn., pose in a photo submitted to the Fellowship of Reconciliation of Nyack, N.Y. The organization is heading up a project that sends snapshots of Iraq from people in the United States in an effort to show "what Americans are really like."

Snapshots send a message of 'sorry'

Americans opposed to war seek to show Iraqis another face of the United States

BY JIM FITZGERALD
The Associated Press

NYACK, N.Y. — More than 2,000 people opposing the war in Iraq, including the father of an American beheaded by terrorists, are sending Iraqi personal photos with protest messages to show "what Americans are really like."

The pictures, from all around the country, are meant to be a counterpoint to the infamous images of Americans abusing Iraqi prisoners. Each photo shows at least one sign, usually handmade.

Some specifically criticize U.S. actions in the war while others simply extend sympathy to Iraqi civilians.

"With deep shame, we apologize for the suffering our country has brought to the people of Iraq," says a banner in a photo showing 11 people in Vancouver, Wash. Three elderly people in Minneapolis declare, "All our children long for a new day."

Michael Berg, whose son Nicholas was executed last spring by an al-Qaida-affiliated group, holds a sign in his photo that says, "I am sorry and ashamed for the tremendous loss my government has caused the Iraqi people."

"I truly feel that what the United States government has done to the once-sovereign nation of Iraq is atrocious and shameful," he said in a phone interview. Berg, whose opposition to the war predates his son's execution, will be in Washington on Wednesday when the project is formally unveiled by the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

The peace group, which organized the project, said it wants Iraqis to know that most Americans were shocked by the photos of U.S. soldiers abusing Iraqi prisoners and many regret a war being waged in their name.

A veterans' group, however, believes the project undercuts U.S. soldiers.

Jerry Newberry, spokesman for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, said, "This type of thing only serves to undermine the effort and the sacrifice of our military in Iraq. These people on the face

of it seem to have a political agenda... It implies that what we're attempting to do in Iraq is shameful."

The White House has no comment, spokesman Ken Lisais said.

The project was sparked by Kaia Svien, a 57-year-old Minneapolis teacher, who said she was "just dumbstruck" when she saw the Abu Ghraib prison photos.

"It was the power of the photographs that brought home the message," Svien said. "So I thought, 'Can't we use photos in another way to respond to this and hope they will be as powerful? Maybe we can show them what Americans are really like.'"

She took the idea to the Nyack-based Fellowship, a 90-year-old group with a history of pacifism and activism. Staffer Hossein Alizadeh made it a national project, asking local peace groups to spread the word.

About 400 pictures came in from more than 100 cities and towns.

Half of them are being burned onto CDs for distribution Wednesday to news media that reach Iraqis, said Fellowship spokeswoman Jennifer Hyman.

"We thought it would be great if we could speak as ordinary Americans to ordinary Iraqis," said Alizadeh. "Since the United States went in there, the Iraqis have seen nothing but violence, so they have a very negative opinion of Americans. We hope that after they see these photographs, they will pause for a second and think, 'At least we have a few friends, there are people who care about what's happening.'"

He said that despite the signs in the pictures, the project is "not about condemning any government." Hyman said the peace group wants to stop the deaths of U.S. soldiers as well as the Iraqis.

There is no official figure for the number of Iraqis killed, but some nongovernmental estimates range from 10,000 to 30,000. As of Friday, 1,086 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to the Defense Department.

Troops stage assaults on insurgents in Afghanistan

BY TERRY BOYD
Stars and Stripes

ASADABAD, Afghanistan — Forces at Firebase Asadabad launched several operations Friday aimed at extending their dominance to an area where intelligence reports indicate there are high concentrations of Taliban fighters and other insurgents.

Helicopters from Bagram Airfield inserted about 60 soldiers for an air assault into the mountains near the contested Afghanistan-Pakistan border. Special Forces soldiers and Marines launched operations into northern Kunar Province and into Nuristan Province, according to U.S. officials.

The area where 82nd Airborne Division troops were headed — a hilltop about 8,000 feet into the mountains south of Asadabad — is where a small U.S. Marine Corps force had several major firefights with insurgents in September, said Capt. Brian Feddeler, commander of Company D commander, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

"A month ago, the Marines went in there and got shot up," Feddeler said.

The Marines went to the insurgent stronghold to try to stop rocket attacks that, at the time, were hitting Firebase Asadabad nearly every day. Such attacks now are



TERRY BOYD/Stars and Stripes

Soldiers with the 82nd Airborne Division get on a CH-47 Chinook on their way to an air assault Friday. Helicopters inserted the soldiers onto a hilltop 8,000 feet into the mountains near the Afghanistan-Pakistan border.

infrequent, and his soldiers' mission is to hunt down insurgents in an effort to ensure they stay that way, Feddeler said.

The air assault force was drawn from 1-505 soldiers, National Guard and 25th Infantry Division soldiers attached to the Asadabad Provincial Reconstruction Team, one of 17 teams located across Afghanistan.

The air assault was both a show of force and a search for insurgent rockets, Feddeler said. In addition, Civil Affairs soldiers from the PRT planned to assess two isolated villages, one of which intelligence reports indicate is con-

trolled by insurgents, PRT officers said.

Soldiers from the 82nd were sent to Afghanistan in late September to augment security for the Oct. 9 elections, which were far more peaceful than expected.

Now, the 82nd is using its rapid-deployment capabilities to help PRT and Special Forces teams eradicate enemy fighters.

"We want to show the enemy force we have the capability to insert troops anywhere," Feddeler said. "That's something that's on their minds... that we can show up anywhere, anytime."

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Wounded Marine, quintuplets all faring well



Taunacy Horton, left, the mother of quintuplets who were born Monday, reads a statement during a news conference Friday at Edward Hospital in Naperville, Ill. The father, Marine Sgt. Joshua Horton, is recovering at Bethesda Naval Hospital after being injured in Iraq.

The Associated Press

BETHESDA, Md. — A Marine who became the father of quintuplets just days after he was badly wounded in Iraq is recovering and will be united with his expanded family in a few weeks, his mother and his doctor said Friday.

The babies, meanwhile, are doing well and passed their critical first 72 hours with no serious difficulties.

Marine reservist Sgt. Joshua Horton was scheduled to undergo surgery Friday afternoon, the latest in a series of operations to repair damage from shrapnel from an Oct. 7 explosion south of Baghdad.

As Horton arrived for treatment at the National Naval Medical Center on Monday, his wife was giving birth at a hospital in

Naperville, Ill. Horton was heavily sedated at the time, and did not learn of the babies' births until Wednesday.

He has since watched a video of the babies, said their mother, Taunacy Horton.

"He was deeply moved and reached out to touch the TV screen with his hand," she said, fighting back tears. She said he hoped to be well enough to be at Edward Hospital when they can hold the infants for the first time. Doctors didn't say how soon that might be.

The three girls and two boys already have their own personalities, their mother said, proudly displaying the plastic bands of all five infants around her wrist.

The babies, born at less than 2 pounds each, are in critical but stable condition. Their mother was released from the hospital Friday.

Horton's mother, Lauchlan Jones, said she hoped Horton could be discharged within two to three weeks so he could see his new babies, his wife and their two older children.

Horton's doctor, Navy Cmdr. Phil Perdue, said the Marine will undergo more surgery, but his chances for a full recovery are good.

He was wounded in the torso and right leg.

The Hortons met at the Navy hospital in 1995 when Taunacy was a corpsman at the facility and Joshua was an active-duty Marine posted in the Washington, D.C., area.

Joshua Horton eventually left the military and became a police officer in Aurora, Ill. He joined the Marine reserves after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and was shipped to Iraq last month.

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IN THE STATES

Some states cracking down on flu shots

BY AMY F. BAILEY
The Associated Press

LANSING, Mich. — Thinking of trying to wheedle a flu shot from your doctor even though you're not at high-risk for flu complications? Forget about it in Michigan. Or Washington, D.C. Or Massachusetts.

As the vaccine shortage hits home and long lines queue around the supermarket, a handful of states and the nation's capital are threatening doctors and nurses with fines or even jail if they give flu shots to healthy, low-risk people.

Health officials downplay the punishment and say that most health care workers are following the guidelines.

"But there are people who are unsure and there are consumers who are not necessarily being as civic-minded as we would like. ...

This just provides us with some backup," said Janet Olszewski, Michigan's director of community health, who issued the order Thursday.

There are about 3.4 million people in Michigan considered a priority for a flu shot this fall — primarily the elderly, children 6 to 23 months, the chronically ill, pregnant women and certain health care workers. But the state only has about 2 million doses, Olszewski said.

Health care violators in Michigan face a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in jail and a \$200 fine if convicted, the health director said.

At least four other states — Massachusetts, New Mexico, Oregon and Wisconsin — and Washington, D.C., have issued similar orders with varying penalties.

"It's a strong step," agreed Dr. Gregg Pane, acting director of the District of Columbia Department of Health, whose order took effect Friday.

In Washington, violators could be fined up to \$1,000, and Pane said the health department would investigate complaints. In Wisconsin, penalties include up to 30 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

In Massachusetts, the penalty is a \$200 fine per infraction and six months in jail.

"It's not rationing," said Massachusetts Public Health Commissioner Christine Ferguson. "It's being rational about how to reduce the number of deaths that could result from a serious flu season."

The doctor for a Boston nursing home called the state order controlling what the private sector can do with its own medicine "unprecedented." It makes it difficult for public flu shot clinics to continue, since many can't verify a "high risk" status for patients, said Dr. John Foster. But he said the action was needed.

"I think it is a public health crisis," said Foster, medical director for the North End Rehabilitation and Nursing Center.

"They can't wait and give vaccines out to people who shouldn't get it."

The nation is only getting about

Fines, jail time threatened if vaccine is given to low-risk people

half the 100 million flu shots it had expected for the current flu season. One of two primary vaccine suppliers, Chiron Corp., is barred from shipping its vaccine from a British factory because of contamination problems. The United States has no stockpile of

vaccine and no authority to ration shots, a job that is left to the states, which have their own laws on public health emergencies.

Some states like Oregon and New Mexico have only civil penalties to enforce their orders that flu shots be given only to

high-risk patients. In those states, fines and sanctions from medical licensing boards are possible.

Even so, "we are taking it very seriously," Lorraine Duncan, Oregon's immunization program manager, said Friday. "We are asking people to report an inci-

dent and we will investigate each one."

Since Oregon's order took effect a week ago, two complaints of healthy people getting shots have been checked out. But Duncan said there was no wrongdoing and offered an example: A 42-year-old getting a flu shot might look perfectly healthy to an outsider, but could have a chronic illness or might be a health care provider.



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Bush: Kerry doesn't have ability to lead

BY JENNIFER LOVEN

The Associated Press

SUNRISE, Fla. — President Bush on Saturday questioned Sen. John Kerry's "ability to lead our nation," raising the Democrat's year-old opposition to emergency funding for the Iraq war to paint his rival as too fickle to be trusted with America's safety.

Bush said it was simple: Kerry failed to support American troops in harm's way when he voted against an \$87 billion for military and reconstruction efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Noting the vote was a year ago Sunday, Bush mocked Kerry for at first saying it would be irresponsible to oppose the measure, and then doing just that.

Bush, repeating a common campaign charge, said the change of heart was purely for political expedience, coming just as former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean was gaining steam as the party's anti-war candidate.

"Senator Kerry apparently decided supporting the troops even while they were in harm's way was not as important as shoring up his own political position," said Bush, speaking in a

20,000-seat sports arena that appeared about half-full. His campaign bus drove into the darkened arena to deposit the president amid strobe lights and swirling smoke.

"At a time of great threat to our country, at a time of great challenge to the world, the commander in chief must stand on principle, not the shifting sands of political convenience," he said.

In the homestretch of a newly tightened race, Bush was campaigning by bus and plane throughout Florida, the state that decided the 2000 election. He was appearing at rallies in West Palm Beach and at the Daytona International Speedway, each time introduced by his brother, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush. All three stops were in counties that Democrat Al Gore won four years ago.

Florida is among the handful of states both sides consider still in play, and the one offering the largest electoral prize. Kerry's running mate, Sen. John Edwards, was campaigning nearby in Miami on Saturday.

Florida's lashing by four major hurricanes has complicated campaigning and polling. Some polls



President Bush

show Bush ahead and others indicate a close race.

Also Saturday, Bush used his weekly radio address as a campaign tool, mentioning his unnamed "opponent" five times to plead the case that he, not Kerry, has a better slate of ideas on the economy, taxes, education and health care.

The president has for months sought to portray Kerry as a potentially dangerous commander in chief, arguing the Democrat shifts positions with the political winds. As proof, Bush often takes Kerry's statements on Iraq out of context, contrasting that image with one of Bush as a president who is steady in the face of a treacherous world.

The Kerry campaign dismissed the criticism.

Kerry says he'll reverse Bush's stem cell policy

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sen. John Kerry said he would reverse President Bush's restrictions on embryonic stem cell research as he remembered the late actor Christopher Reeve, a quadriplegic, as a hero and a friend in the Democrats' radio address Saturday.

"We're going to make funding for this research a top priority in our government agencies, our universities and our medical community, and we'll continue to lead the world in great discoveries — all while upholding the highest ethical standards," the Democratic presidential candidate said.

Kerry called Bush's restrictions on federal funding for embryonic stem cell research "a ban that's tied the hands of our scientists and shut down some of our most promising work on spinal cord injuries, Alzheimer's, diabetes, Parkinson's and other life-threatening diseases."

"I know that when we put our best minds to work studying our worst diseases, time and time again we find treatments and cures and vaccines," Kerry said. "But when we don't, when we have a president who dismisses our scientists and turns his back on science, then we say no to dis-

covery, no to innovation and no to hope for so many Americans."

Bush restricted federal funding for embryonic stem cell research to lines created before Aug. 9, 2001. His re-election campaign

represents a federal commitment to using the promise of stem cell research in an ethical way.

The Bush-Cheney campaign said Kerry is distorting the situation for partisan advantage. "Voters will not trust a candidate who refuses to let the facts get in the way of his attempt to play politics with every issue," said spokesman Steve Schmidt.

Reeve, paralyzed in a horseback riding accident, died from an infection last week. Kerry knew the "Superman" actor for about 15 years through family and activism, and he said Reeve left him a telephone message the day before he died thanking him for campaigning on the possibilities for cures found through stem cell research.



Kerry

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Cheney's gay daughter steers away from spotlight

BY JON SARCHIE
The Associated Press

DENVER — At the Republican National Convention this year, Mary Cheney and her partner Heather Poe sat together to watch Cheney's father, Vice President Dick Cheney, deliver his acceptance speech.

Afterward, Mary Cheney didn't join her sister onstage with their father. And she and Poe were nowhere in sight for the convention finale a day later, following remarks from Illinois Republican Senate candidate Alan Keyes that, as a lesbian, Mary Cheney is a "selfish hedonist."

A spokeswoman for the vice president said later that Mary Cheney and Poe, who sat in the vice president's box at the convention, decided on their own which events to attend. Now, again at the center of controversy over her sexual identity, Mary Cheney has declined to comment on remarks John Kerry made during a presidential debate suggesting that her homosexuality was formed at birth.

Cheney, 35, has lived for years

in Conifer and runs operations in her father's campaign office. Before that, she worked as a gay and lesbian outreach coordinator for Coors Brewing Co., but she quit the job before her father's 2000 campaign.

Some gay activists have wondered how she can continue to support her father, the No. 2 man in an administration that supports a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage.

"I think she's stuck between the same rock and hard place as her father — that party allegiances dictate silence at best on gay and lesbian issues," said Julie Tolleson, a board member of Equal Rights Colorado. "She's supporting her father's ticket, as good daughters do."

Cheney, who wears a gold band on her left hand and shares her father's passion for fly fishing, is well known in Colorado, if not a high-profile figure.

Before this summer's GOP convention, Dick Cheney spoke about his daughter's sexuality and his view of gay relationships, saying he believed states should

be able to choose their own stance on the issue of same-sex marriage.

Mary Cheney's sexual orientation also came up during her father's debate with vice presidential candidate John Edwards, who said he respected the Cheneys because they are willing to say they have a gay daughter and they embrace her. Cheney thanked Edwards for the "kind words he said about my family and our daughter."

All that changed this week with Kerry's remarks.

The vice president and his wife, Lynne, accused Kerry of using their daughter for political gain. Lynne Cheney said Kerry's statements amounted to a "cheap and tawdry political trick."

Some activists were baffled at the anger by other GOP officials.

"The outrage from those folks outside the Cheney family — the Bush operatives — that outrage ought to be directed toward the Bush campaign, which has used anti-gay tactics in an attempt to win this election," said Christopher Barron, political director for the Log Cabin Republicans, a Republican gay-rights group.



Vice President Dick Cheney's daughters, Elizabeth, left, and Mary, attend the Republican National Convention in New York in September.

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Reviewers find more of Bush's Guard records

BY MATT KELLEY
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Weeks after Texas National Guard officials signed an oath swearing they had turned over all of President Bush's military records, independent examiners found more than two dozen pages of previously unreleased documents about Bush.

The two retired Army lawyers went through Texas files under an agreement between the Texas Guard and The Associated Press, which sued to gain access to the files. The 31 pages of documents turned over to AP Thursday night include orders for high-altitude training in 1972, less than three months before Bush abruptly quit flying as a fighter pilot.

The discovery is the latest in a series of embarrassments for Pentagon and Texas National Guard officials who have repeatedly said they found and released all of Bush's Vietnam-era military files, only to belatedly discover more records. Those discoveries — nearly 100 pages, including Bush's pay records and flight logs — have

been the result of Freedom of Information lawsuits filed in federal and Texas courts by AP.

A Texas National Guard spokesman defended the continuing discoveries, saying Guard officials didn't find all of Bush's records because they are disorganized and in poor shape.

"These boxes are full of dirt and rat (excrement) and dead bugs. They have never been sitting in an uncontrolled climate," said Lt. Col. John Stanford.

Two Texas officials had signed sworn affidavits insisting they had reviewed the files in those boxes and released copies of all that related to Bush's 1968-1973 Guard service, however.

Bush's time in the Texas Air National Guard has come under scrutiny in this war-time election season. Some Democrats ac-

cuse Bush of shirking his guard duties in 1972 and 1973, when Bush didn't show up for training for as long as six months at a time.

Democrats have contrasted Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry's combat service in Vietnam with Bush's stateside service as an F-102A fighter pilot in Texas. Bush says he fulfilled all of his service

obligations and did nothing wrong. The newly released documents shed no new light on the most controversial periods of Bush's guard tenure.

Texas Tech University law school professors Richard D. Rosen and Calvin Lewis, both former Army lawyers, reviewed the boxes of files earlier this week under an agreement in the AP lawsuit. They found three other boxes with files from Bush's unit that previous searches did not turn up, Stanford said.

The newly released documents include a January 1972 order for Bush to attend three days of "physiological training" at Laredo Air Force Base in Texas. His Texas payroll and attendance records, released earlier, show Bush was credited for serv-

ing on active-duty training for the three days involved.

At the time, pilots had to renew their high-altitude training every three years, said retired Maj. Gen. Paul A. Weaver, Jr., a former head of the Air National Guard. Bush's first altitude training came in 1969 when he was in pilot school at Moody Air Force Base in Georgia.

The altitude training came six weeks before Bush began an unexplained string of flights on two-seat training jets and simulators. On April 12, 1972, Bush took his last flight in the single-seat F-102A fighter.

The future president skipped a required annual medical exam and was ordered grounded as of August 1972. Bush says he missed the exam because he was planning to train with an Alabama Air National Guard unit that did not fly the F-102A.

Bush went to Alabama that year to work on the U.S. Senate campaign of a family friend. Records show Bush did no Guard training at all between mid-April and late October 1972. He's credited with six days of training in October and November 1972, presumably with the Alabama unit.



Muslim activist jailed for Libya dealings

Well-known figure admitted role in plot to assassinate Saudi prince

BY JENNIFER C. KERR
The Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — A prominent Muslim activist who admitted participating in a Libyan plot to assassinate Saudi Arabia's crown prince was sentenced Friday to the maximum 23 years in prison for illegal business dealings with Libya.

Abdullah Alamuoudi, 52, pleaded guilty in July to accepting hundreds of thousands of dollars from high-ranking Libyan officials while serving as a go-between for them and Saudi dissidents.

While Alamuoudi was not charged in connection with the alleged scheme to kill Crown Prince Abdullah, prosecutors cited the plot as reason for him to receive the maximum sentence.

"This conduct is so base, so reprehensible that this defendant deserves every day of prison that this court will impose upon him," government attorney Steven Ward said.

Defense lawyer Stanley Cohen

asked for leniency and Alamuoudi said he was sorry.

"Your honor, I regret my involvement in everything," Alamuoudi said before U.S. District Judge Claude M. Hilton imposed the sentence.

Alamuoudi, of Falls Church, Va., was a naturalized U.S. citizen from Eritrea who helped found the American Muslim Council and related American Muslim Foundation. His position within the Muslim community garnered him an invitation to the White House during the Clinton administration. He also participated in a group discussion with then-presidential candidate George W. Bush in 2000.

Alamuoudi pleaded guilty to violating sanctions against travel and trade with Libya, making false statements on his immigration application, and a tax violation. As part of a plea deal, he surrendered his U.S. citizenship.

According to a 20-page "statement of facts" filed by prosecutors, Libyan dictator Moammar

Gadhafi wanted Abdullah killed after a March 2003 Arab League Summit during which the two called each other names.

Within two weeks, Alamuoudi, who had in the past frequently traveled illegally to meet Libyan government officials, was summoned to a meeting in Tripoli and told Gadhafi wanted to punish Saudi leaders. The unidentified Libyan officials wanted Alamuoudi to introduce them to Saudi dissidents who could create "headaches" for the Saudi regime, authorities said.

Alamuoudi was not initially told the ultimate plan was to assassinate Abdullah, learning of it only several months later from an unidentified "high-ranking Libyan government official," the papers said.

Last year, a Libyan official paid Alamuoudi \$250,000. Court documents indicate Alamuoudi used some of the cash for himself and transferred the rest to two others for personal use.

Alamuoudi received more cash from Libya and provided some to

the Saudi dissidents. He was carrying \$340,000 of that cash in airport when it was seized by airport authorities there during a routine baggage search. Alamuoudi was questioned about the money but not arrested.

He returned to Libya and was arrested Sept. 28, 2003, when he returned to the United States.

Bush administration officials sought to portray the prosecution as a victory in the war against terrorism.

The sentence "shows that the system works: a terrorist facilitator has been sentenced to jail and we have reason to suspect that through his cooperation, we will obtain intelligence that will assist us in our ongoing efforts to advance these critical investigations," Attorney General John Ashcroft said.

Alamuoudi's lawyer said his client was a victim and walked into the assassination plot "unwittingly and unwittingly." Cohen said he expected the government to seek a sentence reduction next year because of Alamuoudi's continuing cooperation with prosecutors.

Drug property law

PITTSBURGH — A homeowner accused of letting his property be used for illegal drug activity has been indicted on federal charges.

It was the first time federal prosecutors brought charges under a new statute that holds homeowners responsible for drug activity on their property.

U.S. Attorney Mary Beth Buchanan said Friday there is an ongoing investigation into alleged drug activity at the home of Henry Kean, 62. She would not comment further on what led to the Oct. 8 indictment.

The indictment alleges that between May 2003 and August 2004, Kean maintained his residence for the use and distribution of controlled substances. Federal prosecutors will seek the forfeiture of his home.

Kean denied his home of 36 years was a drug house, the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review reported in a story for publication Saturday. "As far as I'm concerned it's clean," Kean said. "Me, myself and I, that's the whole crew that lives there."

From The Associated Press

Study finds amphibian species in rapid decline

BY RANDOLPH E. SCHMIDT
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Eye of newt and toe of frog may one day be gone from witches' grog.

Indeed, not just frogs and newts but amphibians in general are rapidly becoming threatened worldwide, a new study shows.

And while few would miss the evil broth concocted by the witches in William Shakespeare's Macbeth, the rapid decline of animals like toads and salamanders is raising concerns as it worsens, a team of researchers reported Thursday.

"What we're seeing here is completely unprecedented declines and extinctions," said Simon N. Stuart of the World Conservation Union, lead researcher on the study.

These declines are "outside our normal experience," Stuart said in a telephone interview.

There are a variety of reasons for some losses, while others remain a mystery, the group reports in a paper being published online by the Journal Science.

Amphibians have porous skins and narrow environmental requirements, and their decline may be an indicator that something sinister is under way in the environment, Simon said.

"Where amphibians proceed, others may follow, possibly us also," he said.

The researchers reported that 1,856 species, 32.5 percent of the known species of amphibians, are "globally threatened," meaning they fall into the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's categories of vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered. By comparison, 12 percent of bird species and 23 percent of mammal species are threatened.

The researchers reported 435 amphibian species are in rapid de-



Rhacophorus angulirostris, Kina Balu Flying Frog, photographed in Indonesia in 2003 are rapidly becoming threatened worldwide, a new study shows.

The rapid decline of animals like toads and salamanders is raising concerns as it worsens, a team of researchers reported Thursday.

cline, at least nine species have gone extinct since 1980 and another 113 species have not been reported from the wild in recent years and are considered to be possibly extinct.

Their findings, called the Global Amphibian Assessment, were compiled by more than 500 scientists in 60 countries.

"All in all, amphibians are certainly in deep trouble in many areas, for a whole suite of reasons," said Ross A. Alford, a professor of tropical biology at James Cook University in Australia.

The new paper concludes that while exploitation and loss of habitat are factors in some losses, other declines remain enigmatic, occurring for unknown reasons.

Overexploited species are concentrated in East and Southeast Asia where frogs are harvested for food, the report says. Habitat loss occurs more widely, but especially in Southeast Asia, West Africa and the Caribbean, it adds.

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IN THE WORLD

Karzai keeps lead in Afghan election

Two U.S. soldiers killed in attack

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Interim leader Hamid Karzai widened his early lead Saturday in Afghanistan's landmark election, but the deaths of two U.S. soldiers and three Afghan children in bomb attacks underscored that peace and security still elude much of the country.

The reports of violence came as hundreds of election staff got back to work at counting centers across Afghanistan after a day off Friday to celebrate the start of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

Early results from about 100,000 votes tallied so far — about 1.2 percent of the ballots cast nationwide — showed that U.S.-backed Karzai, the election favorite, was surging ahead with 77 percent of the vote.

Final results from the election — Afghans' first opportunity to directly pick their leader — are expected at the end of October, although it should be clear who has won after about a week.

Karzai strongly condemned an assault Friday in eastern Kunar province in which a truck was reportedly set on fire and then a re-

mote-controlled bomb detonated, killing at least three children and a policeman. He described it as a terrorist atrocity committed by "enemies of Islam."

Meanwhile, the U.S. military said a homemade bomb hit an American Humvee jeep on patrol in the southern province of Uruzgan on Thursday, killing two soldiers and wounding three others, one of them critically.

While polling day, Oct. 9, was mostly peaceful despite threats by Taliban-led rebels to sabotage the vote, their insurgency still simmers in the country's lawless south and east. Nearly 1,000 people, many of them insurgents, have died in political violence this year in the run-up to the poll.

In Washington, the U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan, Zalmay Khalilzad, said the election was a triumph for Afghans and international forces protecting them, but only one step on the road to stability.

"It could take as long as 10 years for it to be a truly successful country in terms of security, in terms of economic development, in terms of being a successful democratic state," Khalilzad told reporters Friday.



Afghan election workers sort the votes for interim President Hamid Karzai in Kabul on Saturday. Final results from the election are expected at the end of October.

Afghans are aching for peace after conflicts dating back to the Soviet occupation of the 1980s, and the U.N.-backed election, which cost about \$200 million to stage, has generated huge interest.

A top election official has esti-

mated that despite Taliban intimidation and bad weather, about 8 million of the 10.5 million registered voters cast ballots. Counting began Thursday after five days of delays as a panel of foreign experts probed electoral fraud allegations submitted by the 16 candidates.

Of 98,605 valid votes tallied in seven northern and central provinces, Karzai won 75,936 or 77 percent of the total, the official election Web site said. Former Education Minister Yunus Qanooni, expected to be Karzai's closest challenger, had 9.5 percent, ahead of ethnic Uzbek warlord Abdul Rashid Dostum with 6.4 percent. No other candidate mustered more than 1.3 percent.

Former detainee defends actions

The Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — A Saudi-American held in U.S. solitary confinement for nearly three years without charges was quoted Saturday as saying he went to Afghanistan to do charity work and that his U.S. jailers mocked his assertions he was an American.

Yasser Esam Hamdi spoke with the Saudi Al-Madina newspaper in his home in al-Jubail.

Upon returning Monday to Saudi Arabia, "I learned what it means to have family, a country and loving people. On the other extreme, I tasted the bitterness of enmity, spitefulness and injustice," Hamdi told the paper.



Hamdi

Hamdi was captured on a battlefield in Afghanistan in late 2001. He was born in Louisiana in 1980 to Saudi parents and was raised in the kingdom.

In the interview, Hamdi said he was in Afghanistan because he wanted to help the "Afghan brothers."

"Their suffering was increasing day after day," he said. "I used to watch the extent of loss, hunger and homelessness they were in and I felt solidarity with them."

Hamdi told Al-Madina he had been in Afghanistan two months when the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks occurred. He said the area he was in came under the control of the forces of an Afghan warlord who fought the Taliban and "I was lead to jail in shackles with many of those who were doing relief work."

Sudanese government, rebels discuss peace

The Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — The Sudanese government has narrowed differences with southern rebels in peace talks to end a two-decade civil war, mediators said Saturday as chief negotiators left the talks in neighboring Kenya to observe the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Sudanese Vice President Ali Osman Taha and southern rebel leader John Garang will begin talks on a peace deal at an undisclosed date after Ramadan, and expert-level consultations will continue without interruption, said chief mediator Gen. Lazaro Sumbeiywo.

More than 2 million people have died in the 21-year conflict, which is separate from fighting in the western region of Darfur, where pro-government Arab mili-

tias are accused of waging a campaign of murder, rape and arson on African villagers.

Talks to end the fighting in southern Sudan resumed Oct. 7. The government and rebels agreed to form jointly a national army of 24,000 troops to keep the peace in areas that saw some of their most fierce clashes in the 1990s, said Sayed el-Khatib, a Sudanese government negotiator. Under the agreement each side will contribute 12,000 troops, and the government will provide arms, ammunition and funding.

But warring parties are at odds over a rebel demand to maintain a separate army under their own command in southern Sudan as a security guarantee, Khatib said. The rebels want the government to pay for such a force, a proposal the government negotiator called "problematic."

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We are there

Soyuz docks with space station

Malfunction with craft's autopilot causes crew to approach manually

BY MARIA DANILOVA

The Associated Press

KOROLYOVO, Russia — A Russian spacecraft ferrying a fresh crew to the international space station had to be docked manually Saturday after an unexplained glitch sent it toward the outpost too quickly.

Mission Control staff monitoring the docking from Korolyov, outside Moscow, broke into applause after Captain Salizhan Sharipov docked the Soyuz with the station.

Mission Control chief Vladimir Solovoy said that with 660 feet to go before docking at the station, the spacecraft braked and officials on the grounds switched off the autopilot. Soyuz spacecraft are normally guided by autopilot on their approach to the station and during the docking, but the crew is trained to operate the capsule manually in case of computer failure.

"Everything went normally, even though we noted a higher speed, close to dangerous, but the crew acted brilliantly," Solovoy said.

The Soyuz TMA-5, also carrying Russian Yuri Shargin and American Leroy Chiao, docked with the station at 12:16 a.m., just over two days after lifting off from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on Thursday.

It was the fourth time a Soyuz had filled in for U.S. space shuttle flights, suspended since the Columbia burned up on re-entry in February 2003.

"We were very nervous. This isn't our first time seeing off a crew, but of course when it's about the people you love, it's a different kind of anxiety," said Lyudmila Lutokhina, Shargin's wife.

Fred Gregory, the deputy director NASA, said the switch from automatic to manual mode was "seamless."

"It appears that the crew was extremely well trained," he said.

In a rare rupture with a tradition of having at least one crewman with previous experience in piloting the capsule, none of the astronauts aboard the Soyuz had flown it before. But space officials downplayed the lack of experience, saying the crew had undergone sufficient training.

Officials said they still did not know what caused the glitch.

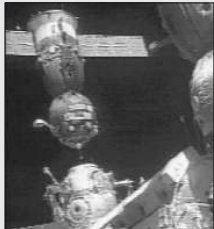
"At the approach stage, we faced a few divergences in speed. We need to find out the facts and reasons why it happened," said Yuri Semyonov, head of the Energiya company, the Soyuz's manufacturer.

"At the moment of automatic docking, the machine gave a danger signal and the crew had to take manual control."

Sharipov and Chiao are to replace Russian Gennady Padalka and American Mike Fincke, who are ending a half-year mission on the orbiting station. Padalka and Fincke will return to Earth with Shargin on Oct. 24.

About three hours after the docking, Padalka opened the hatch and embraced Sharipov, the first new crew member to enter the station. Chiao and Shargin followed the captain, and space officials on the ground wished them a productive mission — and wished the crew they are replacing a safe journey back to Earth.

"Gennady, I see your hair has gotten too long," Gregory quipped over the radio to Padalka. "It looks like you're ready to go home."



The Soyuz TMA-5, left, is seen moments before docking to the international space station on Saturday.

During their six-month mission, Sharipov and Chiao will conduct experiments to research AIDS vaccines and study plant growth and will take at least two space walks.

Gregory said that Russia and the United States had completed negotiations on joint flights earlier this month, paving the way for the two nations to work together through April 2006.

NASA scientists are evaluating shorter and longer missions, he said, in response to Russia's desire to send crews up for more than six months at a stretch.

Gregory said NASA had hoped its shuttles would be flying again by early spring, but because of the hurricane damage in Florida the target now is early summer.

Social activists meet in London

LONDON — Thousands of activists representing a rainbow of anti-globalization, anti-war and anti-racism groups gathered in London on Saturday for the third European Social Forum, with Iraq and the U.S. presidential election at the top of many people's agendas.

Organizers said at least 20,000 people were expected to attend three days of speeches, workshops and debates, culminating Sunday with an anti-war march through central London.

"We're together in opposition to the message that there's no alternative to free market globalization," said Dave Timms, a spokesman for the World Development Movement, a participating organization. "But it's also a forum in opposition to the war and in opposition to racism."

EU nominee in hot water

ROME — Already under fire for calling homosexuality a sin, the Italian minister tapped for a European Commission job was in more hot water Saturday after saying that single mothers "aren't very good."

Rocco Buttiglione, Italy's European affairs minister, a Catholic and friend of Pope John Paul II, has been nominated to be the European Union commissioner overseeing civil liberties and justice matters. A European Parliament committee has concluded that Buttiglione is unfit for the job, and the Parliament as a whole is to vote later this month on whether to confirm all nominees to the new EU Commission.

Two hurt in cable car mishap

LINZ, Austria — A cable car gondola accident Saturday in northern Austria injured two people, state broadcaster ORF reported.

The doors of the gondola sprang open when it was hit by the car ahead, which had slid back, ORF reported.

A girl fell 30 feet to the ground, suffering serious injuries, and her grandmother suffered unspecified injuries that required her to be evacuated by helicopter, ORF reported.

From The Associated Press

Pope marks 26th year

BY FRANCES D'EMILIO

The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Thousands of well-wishers, famous and not, Christian and non-Christian, have showered Pope John Paul II with greetings for the 26th anniversary of his election as pontiff, many of them thanking him for speaking out against preventive war, his spokesman said Saturday.

After a lively concert Friday night at the Vatican by a Russian military chorus and orchestra to publicly celebrate the occasion, John Paul marked the actual date of his election on Oct. 16, 1978, with Mass, as he does early every morning, in his private chapel.

Then he scheduled a second Mass in the chapel at 6 p.m., to coincide approximately with the hour Karol Wojtyla of Krakow, Poland, was elected by his fellow cardinals to the papacy, spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said in an interview on Vatican Radio.

At the morning Mass, the pope thanked God "not only for those 26 years, but above all for all that was done in these 26 years, which is an enormous amount," Navarro-Valls said.

At the early evening Mass, the pope put himself "at God's disposition for all that God wants for the future, plans, initiatives, pastoral work from now on he



Pope John Paul II

will be able to do," the spokesman told Parkinson Radio.

Eighty-four and slowed down by Parkinson's disease and hip and knee problems, John Paul has said on several occasions that he intends to continue working in his mission as pope as long as God lets him.

Navarro-Valls told Vatican Radio that while many of the greetings came from VIPs, several thousand of them were sent by "common people, some Catholic, some not, some not even Christians."

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Sunday Horoscope

The Sagittarius moon tickles the emotions with curiosity. It's a big world out there, and when you stop and think about it, your own vision of it is extremely limited. In these last days of the Libran solar influence to bond with friends in the exploration of the many worlds that intersect your own. Ask a question that never occurred to you to ask before.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (October 17) You know more about how to feel fulfilled and as a result will find many satisfying ways to spend your time this year. Many people are affected by the difference you make. November brings romantic galore. You're especially compatible with Aries and Cancer. Work gets more challenging in January, and you'll have to educate yourself in preparation.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You're presented with so-called shortcuts, but the only way to get full enjoyment out of an activity is to do it right, top to bottom. The afternoon brings dreamy lethargy. Why fight it when you really do need some rest?

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You're coming from a place of kindness in all you do today. In fact, you're perfect in the way you do what you do. So take nothing for granted. A friend may be more than just want to be left alone for a while.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) You deserve more support but can't expect this from people who are unreasonable by nature. When you seek understanding elsewhere, a rather wonderful, lasting change for the better will come about.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Change up your living space, and you'll look at your environment in a whole new way. This casa nirvana spreads to other areas of your life, especially your finances, which improve as you get more organized.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) When you're stuck on the problems, that's what you'll see. Why go there when there's so much praise and

good tidings coming from those around you? Spending intense time with a Scorpio or Virgo can change your life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You're a fabulous partner, so believe it. Friendships come and go.

Some are lifelong; others are a few hours of kindness. Try your best to let relationships develop naturally. Holding on too tightly is a waste of energy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) By volunteering to help others, you send yourself into a positive karmic cycle that continues rolling all week. Commitment issues may come up. A brief and to-the-point talk is better than trying to have a prolonged heart to heart.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) You're lucky when you just show up. You could even win a prize. Take a brisk walk this evening and get important thinking done. If you need another perspective, a Capricorn helps you see the big picture.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You may feel very high school-ish in regard to relationships. It is so wrong to want to be accepted by the "popular crowd"? But do consider why you don't want to be putting certain people on a pedestal.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Worrying matters are dropped, not because they are completely solved but because more important challenges call you to act. You're a pro at creating a mysterious air, but tonight's encounter brings your guard down.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) That social scene is a bit more to beware: If you listen too much to your friends, you'll get caught up in a line of reasoning that, when all is said and done, doesn't make a lick of sense. Think for yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Relationships get deeper, broader and stronger. Friends band together for a common cause, like a ride to the airport or splitting the cost of a meal. The fun is more than you could put a price on.

Creators Syndicate

Stomping down the house

"The audience brought the house down" — I know it refers to wildly enthusiastic applause, but I was wondering whether it originated in some sort of house literally having been "brought down" — and if not, just why it's "bring down" (and not "shake the rafters," or some such) and why "house" for "theater"?

As far as we know, no "house" was ever really brought down by "a furor of laughter or applause."

While "bring down" does have an archaic ring in the sense of "cause a building to fall down" typically, nowadays, what we "bring down" is something we shoot down.

And, lest you think it's rather absurd to imagine that mere applause could bring down a building, I don't think "clapping" — think foot stamping. We've been able to trace the expression (which can be either "bring the house down" or "bring down the house") back as far as 1739.

So there you have it — the audience members aren't clapping; they are stamping their feet, as audiences are still known to do. As to "house" for "theatre," that usage goes back at least to the 1660s.

This column was prepared by the editors of Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. Write to: Merriam-Webster, 1110 Lincoln St., Springfield, Mass. 01102.

Boyfriend's carefree attitude on public nudity aarms woman

Dear Abby: Six months ago, I met a great guy I'll call Joe. This guy is got serious and we have discussed living together. A couple of weeks ago, Joe spent the weekend at my place.

When I got up to prepare breakfast, I was shocked to see him walk through my front door after retrieving my newspaper — stark naked.

I live in a wooded area with few neighbors. Joe had to stroll down a long private driveway to the public street to get the paper. Anyone could have seen him. There are little kids in the neighborhood. To top things off, it was chilly outside and raining.

I asked Joe why he went outside in the rain, and he tried to shrug it off as no big deal. He replied, "I didn't want to get my clothes wet."

I haven't been able to think about anything else for days. I'm considering breaking up with him over this. Joe seems perfect in every other way. He's handsome, successful and even-tempered. I live in a small town and can't risk my reputation by being in relationship with the local flasher. He thinks I'm making a big deal out of something inno-

cent. What should I do?

— Mortified in Minnesota
Dear Mortified: First of all, count your blessings. I know a doctor in Minnesota who likes to have naked in the snow. He says he gets a closer shave that way. Of course, he hasn't caught pneumonia yet or been reported to the police — and his wife is open-minded.

Dear Abby: Because you live in a secluded area, it's possible your friend didn't realize he could be seen by anyone — young or old. Put him on notice that when he's at your house, he is not to go outside *au naturel*. If he respects your feelings,

he'll abide by your wishes. If he doesn't, Nature Boy is not the man for you — and could be courting a "close shave" with the law in your community.

Dear Abby: I'm one of your male readers. I posted my profile on an Internet site for singles. The site contains a significant amount of personal information. All the information I entered was accurate except for one thing: I said I was six years younger than my chronological age.

I did it for two reasons: First, I didn't want to look like an old man; second, I wanted to take excellent care of my body and my chronological age doesn't

reflect who I am. Second, individuals conduct a search based on only two parameters — the age range desired and geographic location. Thus, many women would never view my profile, because I would fall outside the age range considered acceptable.

I had sent and received several e-mails from a delightful young lady. At one point, she asked me whether the age listed in my profile was accurate. I immediately told her the truth and the rationale I had used for listing myself as younger. She immediately informed me that she was no longer interested in communicating with me because I had lied.

Was I wrong to list an age in my profile that wasn't accurate, even though I'm more youthful than most people my age?

— Looking For Love, Columbus, Ohio

Dear Looking: Yes, you were wrong. Although many people of both sexes lie online — about anything from height to weight to income level — the truth has a way of coming to light in the end. And when it does, the inevitable question that follows is: "Was this person being lying about?" That's a very poor way to start any meaningful relationship. Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box #8940, San Jose, CA 95138. Readers may write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.usps.com/dearabby> or by Press Syndicate.

Bad breakup may shoot down plans for a quality hunting trip

Dear Annie: My girlfriend and I broke up after having been together for two years. The problem is that I'm scheduled to go on a hunting trip with her father. We planned this trip more than six months ago.

I have tried calling her father's house for the past three weeks, but I get no response. I paid \$600 toward this trip and will lose the money if I don't go. I called the hunting outfitter to see if they were still expecting us, and apparently they are.

I could drive to the hunting lodge separately, but I will have to stay in a room with this man for a week. My ex has threatened that her father is going to "kick my butt."

I'm afraid he will make my week a living hell. Is there any way I can make them repay me for the lost money? After all, they don't even have the courage to let me know what's going on.

— College Guy in Pennsylvania

Dear College Guy: We can't imagine how you'd want to go on this little excursion under the circumstances. Call the hunting lodge.

Tell the staff you cannot make the hunting trip, and ask if you can have a refund. If the answer is no, try again to contact your ex's parents, apologize for the

dilemma the breakup has caused and ask if at least part of the money can be returned. If they are honorable people, they will understand.

Dear Annie: I'm a 38-year-old man, married for 11 years, with a 6-year-old child. I've been unhappy in my marriage for a long time. I truly care about my wife's well-being, but I'm not in love with her anymore. I'm finding it harder and harder to act as if everything between us is just fine. Inside, I'm crying. I've mentioned to my wife that I'm unhappy, but I guess it didn't make much of an impression on her. Right now, I'm trying to make the best of things, and I don't fuss or cause arguments. I try to be nice and pleasant, but it's getting harder to hide my true feelings. I'm thinking about divorce.

— Carolina Blues

Dear Carolina: If ever a letter cried out for marriage counseling, it's yours. It is not unusual for marriages to go through periods of malaise or dissatisfaction. In a healthy marriage, couples work on the problem and make the relationship stronger. Neither you nor your wife took that step — but it may not be too late.

Talk to your clergyman, or

ask for a referral from your doctor, United Way or the American Association for Marriage & Family Therapy (aamt.org), 112 S. Alfred St., Alexandria, VA 22314-3061.

Dear Annie: I had an experience similar to the one described by "Grieving in Kansas," who kept receiving calls from telemarketers asking for her deceased son, about a year after her husband died. I got a phone call from a stockbroker selling my husband, "Dave," had called and requested information. He asked if Dave was home, and when I said no, he asked if there was a number where Dave could be reached.

I said, "Hold on a minute." I looked up the number of the cemetery and gave it to the salesman, saying, "If he calls to talk to him, will you tell him to call home?"

The mental image of that man's reaction when he made that call stopped the wave of grief I was feeling. I still smile when I think about it.

— Humor Helped

Dear Humor: We're glad this little practical joke alleviated your grief, although we doubt it did much for the salesman.

Dear Annie: My mailbox was stolen by Kathy Mitchell and Mary Susan, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annies-mailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

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Annie's Mailbox

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RELIGION

Commission meets to discuss Anglican Church

Church report could reshape future for 77 million parishioners

BY RICHARD N. OSTLING

The Associated Press



Bishop V. Gene Robinson of New Hampshire is shown in The Church of the Epiphany in Washington, D.C., Oct. 10. Robinson, who lives openly with a gay partner, is part of a controversy that has created different views of what the Anglican Church stands for. A commission is to issue recommendations Monday to unite the Anglican Communion, fractured by divisions over homosexuality and interpretation of the Bible.

Rarely have the bishops and bureaucrats who lead the world's 77 million Anglicans awaited a moment with such intense anticipation.

On Monday, a 17-member emergency panel called the Lambeth Commission will issue recommendations on how the Anglican Communion can remain a coherent, united segment of global Christianity despite severe disagreements over homosexuality and interpretation of the Bible.

At stake may be the long-term future of the Communion, the international association of churches with roots in the Church of England.

And the findings will resonate even further — to Christians in all denominations who believe their faith has unfairly oppressed gays and lesbians, and equally for those who consider changes a direct attack upon the Bible and 2,000 years of Christian teaching.

Two of London's leading newspapers last month reported that the commission would call for disciplinary measures against the Episcopal Church, Anglicanism's U.S. branch, for consecrating Bishop V. Gene Robinson of New Hampshire, who lives openly with a gay partner.

Robinson's elevation isn't the only explosive matter. Openly gay priests are increasingly common in the Episcopal Church and Anglican Church of Canada. Last year's U.S. church convention recognized that Anglicans "with the hands of our common life" conduct same-sex blessing ceremonies and this year's Canadian synod affirmed the "sanctity" of gay couples.

Those events have divided North American parishes and dioceses, and created acrimony among the Anglican Communion's 38 self-governing national churches.

The global consensus is clearly conservative. A 1998 conference of all Anglican bishops declared gay practices "incompatible with Scripture" and op-

posed gay ordinations and same-sex blessings in a 526-70 vote with 45 abstentions.

There's talk that Monday's report will run 80 pages. If it follows Anglican custom there will be language to assuage both sides that allows various interpretations. The implications will play out through 2006, when the next U.S. Episcopal convention will meet, 2007 (Canada's synod) and 2008 (Anglican bishops' world conference).

Pronouncements ahead of the report have offered competing concepts of the Anglican heritage.

According to 45 liberal U.S. clergy and lay activists, "the Anglican tradition of living in tension and diversity of thought" should be maintained.

The group also said the commission shouldn't recommend penalties against the Episcopal Church because it was only mandated to discern how to hold Anglicans together "in spite of our expressed differences."

What might the commission propose? Given the broad international ire, the Rev. Ian Douglas of Episcopal Divinity School in Massachusetts thinks a mere wrist slap against the Americans is unlikely.

He expects "some kind of severe criticism and rebuke" but no proposed departure from Anglicanism's custom of national autonomy.

The Rev. Paul Zahl, new president of Pennsylvania's Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry, fears that the trickle of fellow conservatives quitting the Episcopal Church will become a stream unless there's strong international action.

The document is being released during meetings of standing committees that manage affairs of the "primates," the 38 heads of Anglican branches, and the Anglican Consultative Council, an advisory body of bishops, priests and lay delegates. Participants include conservative bishops and the man who led Robinson's consecration, U.S. Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold.

All primates will meet to debate next steps in February. Also, the Episcopal Church's bishops will hold a special session in January to null the report.

Clergy withhold endorsements while touting free speech

BY BILL BROADWAY

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — This year's presidential campaign has proved to be one infused with religion, with President Bush's re-election bid buoyed by evangelical Protestants and Democratic challenger John Kerry under fire by some of his fellow Roman Catholics for his stance on abortion rights.

But the issue of religion and politics reaches beyond the candidates. Some forms of political involvement can endanger a church's tax-exempt status, and religious leaders report that they and their congregations increasingly are being scrutinized for any action that might violate that rule, including what is said in sermons.

"It's a concern thrust upon us by the attention brought by polarized political perspectives," said the Rev. Graydon Hagler, senior pastor of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Washington, D.C. "We have become polarized as a country, with the right wing scrutinizing the liberals and progressives and the liberals scrutinizing the conservatives. And each is willing to call 'foul.'"

Since March, when a church in Austin, Texas, allowed the Republican Party to hold a fundraiser in its sanctuary, Americans United for the Separation of Church and State has filed complaints with the Internal Revenue Service against seven houses of worship, charging them with failing to observe the limits on political activity by a tax-exempt, nonprofit religious organization. Two of those complaints involved clergy endorsing candidates from the pulpit, with one minister backing Kerry and the other supporting Bush.

In April, the pastor of Charles Street AME Church in Boston introduced visiting candidate Kerry as "the next president of the United States." In July, the pastor of First Baptist Church in Springfield, Ark., told worshippers to "vote God" in November, contrasting the candidates' position on abortion and other issues. He did not mention the candidates' names but displayed images of each one behind him as he spoke favorably about Bush's policies.

"There's a bright line drawn by the IRS and tax law," said Joseph Conn, a spokesman for the Washington-based Americans United. Clergy "can talk about is-

"It's a concern thrust upon us by the administration and by polarized political perspectives. We have become polarized as a country, with the right wing scrutinizing the liberals and progressives and the liberals scrutinizing the conservatives. And each is willing to call 'foul.'"

The Rev. Graydon Hagler

Senior pastor of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

sues in an unlimited way, but they cannot urge people to vote for or against a candidate."

The Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, a legal support group for religious organizations in Washington, considers the threat of tax-exempt revocation to be unconstitutional if it infringes on the right of clergy to speak freely.

Several houses of worship have been in communication with the Becket Fund about complaints they say have been filed with the IRS against them, said Jared N. Leland, media and legal counsel for the fund.

A spokeswoman for the IRS

said she could not comment on the existence or status of any investigation. She referred to the "Tax Guide for Churches and Religious Organizations," a 28-page document on the IRS Web site (No. 1528) that offers guidance on what actions are allowed under federal tax law.

Religious leaders, as individuals, may declare support for candidates or parties but "cannot make partisan comments in official organization publications or at official church functions," according to the guide.

For example, ministers who endorse a candidate at a news conference outside the church or

allow their names to be included in a newspaper ad paid for by the candidate do not violate the prohibition against "campaign intervention," the guide says. But a minister cannot endorse a candidate during a worship service or in a newsletter, even if the minister does so in a column called "My View" and pays for that portion of the newsletter, according to the guide.

Clergy interviewed for this article generally had little knowledge of tax laws involving the political activities of houses of worship.

All said they have not endorsed a candidate by name from the pulpit, and would not. Yet each said that pastors, rabbis, imams and other spiritual leaders have the right to speak freely during worship as long as they do not preach hate or incite violence.

Revocation of tax-exempt status is rare. The best-known case involved a church in Vestal, N.Y., that worked against Bill Clinton in the 1992 presidential campaign and purchased full-page ads in USA Today and the Washington Times headlined "Christians Beware." The IRS revoked the church's tax-exempt status, and federal courts upheld the decision.

Patrolling car lots

DC WASHINGTON — Police in several neighborhoods east of the Anacostia River are training church members to patrol parking lots during services. About one-third of the 6,134 vehicles stolen through September were taken in the city's sixth and seventh police districts. An increasing number of the vehicles have been disappearing from church parking lots.

Vehicle weight limit

CA CHICO — City officials plan to raise to seven tons the weight limit for vehicles using most city streets. They cite the growing number of heavy sport utility vehicles as a reason for abandoning the traditional three-ton limit. That limit was intended to keep commercial trucks off residential streets.

Outsourcing outrage

VA CHARLOTTESVILLE — Nurses at the University of Virginia Medical Center and union leaders say they're insulted that the hospital is paying a recruiting company \$18,500 for each foreign nurse hired from countries such as Australia and South Africa. The additional 12 nurses are an effort to maintain adequate staffing in a highly competitive market, hospital officials said.

Hurricane aid doled out

PA HARRISBURG — The Federal Emergency Management Agency has given \$34 million to 46 counties recovering from flood damage caused by remnants of Hurricanes Frances and Ivan. About \$25 million went to homeowners and renters either forced from their homes or needing home repair. The remainder covered costs such as replacing belongings and medical costs not covered by insurance.

Booted from insurance

WI MADISON — Participation in the state's health insurance program for the working poor dropped by 3,000 people a month after officials implemented tougher rules for proving eligibility. Since May 14, BadgerCare applicants and those already in the program have been required to fill out a form verifying their employment, income and lack of health insurance coverage.

Food tax up in the air

WV SHEPHERDSTOWN — Legislators want to examine other states' sales taxes on food before deciding whether to remove West Virginia's 6 percent tax. An interim committee asked the Department of Tax and Revenue to conduct a state-by-state analysis. Senate Finance Chairman Walt Helmick says lawmakers also must find ways to replace lost revenue if the tax is removed.

Clearing up traffic

NM ALBUQUERQUE — Gov. Bill Richardson is releasing \$3.3 million to extend a major Albuquerque thoroughfare through part of Petroglyph Nation-

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

al Monument. It would provide another link between the city on the east side of the Rio Grande and the city's expanding west side. Supporters say it will ease traffic congestion. Opponents argue it shouldn't run through the monument, considered sacred to several American Indian tribes.

Tree-lined street OK'd

NM SEATTLE — A majority of city council members endorse the mayor's plan of turning busy Mercer Street along south Lake Union into a tree-lined boulevard. It's part of Mayor Greg Nickels' \$250 million plan to redevelop the neighborhood as a biotech center. The street between Interstate 5 and the Seattle Center is known as the "Mercer Mess" because of traffic congestion.

Parents jailed

TX HOUSTON — A 29-year-old Brazoria County couple convicted of injury to a child after the husband used a stun gun on two of his stepchildren are behind bars again.

Theodore Moody and his wife, Tsianina, were jailed after investigators said they encouraged her 14-year-old daughter to crawl through a window and run away from a Sweeney home. The girl lived with her maternal grandmother.



He's all wet

Frank Klipsch, President and CEO of the Bettendorf Family YMCA, experiences the water park features during a grand opening ceremony at the facility in Bettendorf, Iowa.

The couple apparently planned to reunite the family in rural upstate New York, although doing so violated the terms of probation.

Law enforcement officials found the girl, as well as three other children ages 13, 5 and 4, with Theodore Moody at a home near Savannah, N.Y., about 30 miles west of Syracuse.

Theodore Moody was booked into the Wayne County, N.Y., jail on charges of interference with child custody, violating probation and being a convicted felon in possession of firearms.

Fewer blacks students

MI ANN ARBOR — The University of Michigan's freshman class had 15 percent fewer black students than last year, partly because fewer applied after the Supreme Court struck down the school's affirmative action policy, officials said.

University spokeswoman Julie Peterson said some potential applicants may have mistakenly believed that the court's June 2003 ruling completely abolished affirmative action in admissions.

Instead, the ruling required the school to modify the way it accounts for race in undergraduate admissions.

Among the school's 6,040 new first-year students, 350 were black, compared with 410 last year. Applications from black students were down more than 25 percent, officials said.

Colon cancer screening

NY NEW YORK — A survey of 66 city hospitals indicates that if the trend continues at the current rate, 10,000 more people will have undergone colon cancer screening than last year, health officials said.

By mid-2004, the number of colonoscopies had increased by 8 percent, to 40,000 per quarter, from 2003, the officials said during the second annual Colon Cancer Prevention and Control Summit held at Gracie Mansion on Thursday. The numbers were based on data from the city Health Department's colonoscopy survey of the 66 participating hospitals.

Election Day decision

OH TOLEDO — In a victory for the Democrats, a federal judge ruled that Ohio voters who show up at the wrong polling place on Election Day can still cast ballots as long as they are in the county where they are registered.

U.S. District Judge James Carr blocked a directive from Ohio Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell, a Republican, who recently announced that poll workers must send voters to their correct precinct.

The judge said voters who show up at the wrong polling place after moving without notifying the elections board, and those whose names cannot be found on the registration rolls, should be able to cast provisional ballots there.

The decision is a victory for the Ohio Democratic Party and a coalition of labor and voter rights groups, which said Blackwell's order discriminates against the poor and minorities.



Katie Cloud, right, and Hannah Bloch, both 7, play with water in a puddle formed rain at Roosevelt Elementary School's playground in Ames, Iowa.



Bridget Dahlingshus 4, left, of Tipp City, Ohio, and Annelise Logg 2, of Urbana, Ohio, swat at dolphin shaped balloons at a political rally in Troy, Ohio.



Rain, rain go away Two umbrellas weren't quite enough to cover a group of University of Missouri-Kansas City students attempting to shield themselves from the rain while walking across campus in Kansas City, Mo.



Camouflage kitty

Pumpkin, a 1-year-old mostly marmalade-colored cat, crouches in a pile of bright orange maple leaves in a yard in Kalspell, Mont.



Sunset soccer

Smith, Ark.

A couple of girls leave the soccer field at Ben Geren Regional Park at sunset in Fort



I want it, Mommy!

Yong Choi and her son, Jae Woon Oh, look at Albo, a robotic dog at the Sony Style store in the high-end Beverly Center shopping mall in Los Angeles.



On the right track

Tank Smith hoists the motor of the Orient Express as he helps set up the 2004 Coastal Carolina Fair and Expo on the Craven County fairgrounds in New Bern, N.C.

Cemetery goes for turf

CA APPLE VALLEY — The Apple Hills Memorial Park cemetery is giving up grass in favor of artificial turf.

It's a move owners believe will save as much as \$180,000 in water and maintenance costs over the next three years. The cemetery is the final resting place for cowboy stars Roy Rogers and Dale Evans.

Hitt originally started selling artificial turf just to people who wanted it for their family plots, but has gradually begun to put it down throughout the cemetery. He expects he'll have to replace it about once every eight years.

Artificial grass has several benefits besides saving money on water and maintenance costs, said Dave Hepburn of the Interment Association of California, the state's largest cemetery trade association.

Medicare benefits

MI JACKSON — State officials agreed Thursday to restore Medicaid benefits to more than 50,000 Mississippi residents who were scheduled to lose coverage after lawmakers scaled back the rapidly growing health care program.

Attorneys reached a settlement in a lawsuit filed by patients seeking to recover their benefits, and a federal judge approved the deal. The agreement will restore Medicaid coverage until at least Jan. 31, giving lawmakers time to repeal the legislation that eliminated coverage.

Lawmakers abolished medical benefits last spring for many low-income recipients who are elderly or disabled as a cost-saving measure within Medicaid, a federal and state program that provides health care for 768,000 elderly, disabled and poor Mississippians.

Dwellers face eviction

NH TILTON — Residents of seven homes at the Sherryland Village mobile home park face eviction next month unless they come up with \$700,000. The park's owner says he's trying to sell the property for about \$1.2 million. Residents are trying to turn the property into a co-op so they would have a say in rent rates and rules.

IV drug use capital

CA FRESNO — The nation's capital of intravenous drug use is not New York or Miami, not Chicago or Detroit — but Fresno.

It is an unlikely distinction for a city of fewer than 500,000 people in the heart of one of the nation's richest agricultural regions.

The percentage of people shooting up heroin and other drugs in Fresno is nearly three times the national average, fueled by a boom in methamphetamine use, according to a study issued last month.

"This town is so full of meth," said Amy Wilson, 28, who was ordered into rehab after her daughter, now 3½ months old, tested positive for methamphetamine at birth.

The Fresno area has become home to Mexican drug cartels that operate in its rural expanses, where the farm chemicals used to make meth are readily available and the noxious fumes are less easily detect-

ed. According to a 2001 estimate by the Drug Enforcement Administration, 80 percent of the country's meth comes from the cartels.

Street dedicated to GI

CT BRIDGEPORT — City officials dedicated Orange Street to the memory of Army Spc. Tyanna Avery-Felder of Bridgeport, who was killed in April in Mosul, Iraq. Avery-Felder, 22, was a cook with the Army's Stryker Brigade. At the time of her death, she was the 12th Connecticut resident, and first state woman, killed in the fighting.

Teen gastric bypass

TX HOUSTON — Two doctors and a hospital offered a free gastric bypass to a 420-pound teenager after another medical center canceled the procedure because his insurance would not pay for it.

Doctors at Obesity Surgery Specialists said 16-year-old Brandon Bennett needs the operation for a chance at a healthy life.

Brandon is often sent home from school because of high blood pressure and an elevated heart rate, and he is too big to be allowed on rides at Six Flags AstroWorld.

He had been set to have the bypass at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston this month until the insurance issue surfaced. After the Houston Chronicle reported on his health problems, the obesity center contacted his family this week.

School evacuated

FL OPA-LOCKA — A shooting suspect trying to escape police ran into a Catholic school Thursday, forcing police to evacuate about 140 children.

No children were hurt and the suspect and a companion were arrested, police spokesman Frank Gonzalez said.

Police were chasing the suspects' rental truck for blocks before it crashed into a house, police said. The companion was caught, but the other man ran, shooting at officers before running into Our Lady of Perpetual Help school in the Miami suburb of Opa-locka, police said. He was soon arrested.

Miami television station WFOR showed footage of small children running from the school. A woman rushed out carrying two children, followed by another woman with two more youngsters. A group of older children were later seen running from the school to another building.

Former JFK boat seized

MA MARBLEHEAD — Federal agents seized a sailboat Wednesday that was once owned by President Kennedy, saying the boat's current owner bought it with proceeds from a large-scale marijuana trafficking operation.

The Star Class sloop "Flash II" was purchased in 1934 by Kennedy, who sailed it in races off Hyannis. He sold the boat in 1942 just before shipping out for World War II.

Federal prosecutors said its current owner, Gregory Olaf Anderson, bought it in 1996 with the proceeds from his marijuana smuggling and distribution operation.

Photos and stories from The Associated Press

AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFRT's Web site at <http://myfmh.dodmedia.osd.mil/>

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2004							
(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-EUROPE)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-PACIFIC)
9:00 House of Mouse	8:30p Movie *** "Mo'Nasty" (1992, Comedy) Damon Wayans, Martin Wayans	Movie "Halloween" (1978, Comedy) Debbie Reynolds, Judith Hoag	WWE SmackDown!	Make It Count	SportsCenter	Latin Lifestyles	WWE SmackDown!
9:30 Animaniacs				America's Black Forum	College Football Teams to Be Announced	Urban Style	
10:00 Ed, Edd n Eddy			Stargate SG-1 'Fallout'	The Chris Matthews Show	Fantasy game	Stargate SG-1 'Fallout'	
10:30 Primrose Virtual pet rescue	Movie *** "Postcard" (1984, Drama) Kevin Bacon, Lori Singer. Small-town teens fight for their right to date.	Destinations	Headline News	NewsCenter Corps News	Roller on the Road	Headline News	
11:00 Out There		ESPNews	Headline News	Big Story Weekend Edition	Roller on the Road	Headline News	
11:30 Planet's Funniest Animals	Movie *** "The House of Dicks" (2000, Drama) Gillian Anderson, Eric Stoltz. A woman in 1935 New York searches for suitable sons.	Headline News	Movie *** "Sleepy Hollow" (1999, Horror) John J. Green. Colonial villagers lose their heads to a phantom horseman.	CNN Presents	College Center	AFN-American Festivals	ESPNews
12:00 Kids Pick the President		Air Force TV News	Headline News	Fox and Friends	The Suez Canal Show	Headline News	Movie *** "Stuart Little 2" (2002, Comedy) Voice of Michael J. Fox, Gena Davis.
12:30 Happy Days		College Football Teams to Be Announced	Headline News	Fox and Friends	College GameDay	Toyota World of Wildlife	Headline News
13:00 Movie *** "Hush" (1996, Mystery) Rick Lake		Smallville "Slumber"	Headline News		Rodeo PRCA	Animal Adventures (E)	The Simpsons
14:00 Movie *** "The Little Mermaid" (1989, Fantasy) Voice of Jodi Benson, Pat Carroll	Movie *** "Alien" (1979) Ron Swickard. Spooky Weaver. An outer-space stow-away attacks interstellar miners.	WWE Smackdown!	Headline News	CBS News Sunday Morning	Good Eats	Special Forces: Unfold Story - The Battle of Lang Vei	Headline News
15:00 Hey Arnold!		Stargate SG-1 'Fallout'	Scrubs "My Super Ego"	Face the Nation	JAG "A Separate Peace" (Part 1 of 2)	Headline News	Scrubs "My Super Ego"
16:00 Rocket Power		Access Hollywood	Headline News	Meet the Nation	Access Hollywood	The Best Of	Access Hollywood
17:00 SpongeBob SquarePants	Movie *** "Predator" (1987) Arnold Schwarzenegger. A team is stalked by an intergalactic trophy hunter.	NFL Today (Live)	America's Black Forum	Navy/Marine Corps News	NFL Countdown	America's Black Forum	Fox NFL Sunday (Live)
17:30 Rugrats Lurching cream		NFL Today (Live)	Fox NFL Sunday (Live)	Latino Edition PrimeTime	Friends	My Kids and Kids	Fox NFL Sunday (Live)
18:00 The Crocodile Hunter		NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	The Bernie Mac Show	Headline News	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh
19:00 America's Funniest Home Videos	Movie *** "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" (2001, Fantasy) Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, UK. Rowling's student wizard and has his first adventure.	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	Headline News	Headline News	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh
20:00 Gilmore Girls "The Festival of Living Art"		NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	Headline News	Headline News	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh
21:00 American Dreams "Crossing the Line"		NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	Headline News	Headline News	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh
22:00 The Cosby Show "Auction"		NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	Headline News	Headline News	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh
23:00 Home Improvement		NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	Headline News	Headline News	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh
23:30 Touched by an Angel "Portial of Mrs. Campbell"	Movie *** "Bat 21"	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	Headline News	Headline News	NFL Football Regional Coverage - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh
MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2004							
00:00 SpongeBob SquarePants	11:30p Movie *** "Bat 21" (1988) Gene Hackman	NFL Football: Broncos at Raiders or Steelers at Cowboys	NFL Football: Broncos at Raiders or Steelers at Cowboys	NFL Football: Broncos at Raiders or Steelers at Cowboys	NFL Football: Broncos at Raiders or Steelers at Cowboys	Austin City Limits "Joe Raposo, Jessica Andrews"	NFL Football: Broncos at Raiders or Steelers at Cowboys
1:00 Rugrats		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
1:30 The Crocodile Hunter	Movie *** "Beverly Hills Cop" (1984, Drama) Eddie Murphy. A Detroit cop goes west to avenge his friend's death.	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
2:00 America's Funniest Home Videos		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
2:30 Gilmore Girls "The Festival of Living Art"	Movie *** "Domestic Brats" (1997, Drama) Al Pacino, Johnny Depp. A mob lackey under his wing.	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
3:00 American Dreams "Crossing the Line"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
3:30 Sesame Street (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
4:00 Barney & Friends (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
4:30 Blue's Clues (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
5:00 Dragon Tales (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
5:30 Bob the Builder		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
6:00 The Wiggles "Mama's House"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
6:30 The Explorer (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
7:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
7:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
8:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
8:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
9:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
9:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
10:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
10:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
11:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
11:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
12:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
12:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
13:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
13:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
14:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
14:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
15:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
15:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
16:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
16:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
17:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
17:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
18:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
18:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
19:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
19:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
20:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
20:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
21:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
21:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
22:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
22:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
23:00 Stanley "Halloween Merman" Sings "Halloween"		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
23:30 Between the Lines (E)		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News

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Fresh off an ugly divorce, Halle Berry's been seen in the arms of a younger man.

Q Is it true that Halle Berry, who's embroiled in a messy divorce from Eric Benet, already hooked up with someone new? — Suzanne Dunn, Akron, Ohio

A It sure looks that way. Despite vows to proceed with caution in her love life, Halle, 38, has gone full speed ahead into an affair with "Barbershop" star Michael Ealy, 31. They met on the set of the upcoming ABC film "Their Eyes Were Watching God" and have been seen canoodling in public. Given Halle's record of romantic disappointments, we suggest she put on the brakes.

Q John Fowles, who wrote "The French Lieutenant's Woman," is one of my favorite authors. Is he still alive? — D. Kranitz, Buffalo, N.Y.

A The British author is alive and well at 78. He published his diaries, "The Journals: Volume 1," last year in Britain. They'll be out in the United States next summer. No word on when Volume 2 is due.

Q I see that Bob Goen is out and Mark Steines is in at "Entertainment Tonight." How come? — Yolanda Hardman, Bowie, Md.

A Goen hardly can be called a senior citizen at 49, but he's nine years older than Steines—a significant age difference in the world of TV entertainment newsmagazines. We assume the producers of "ET" were concerned that Bob's pairing with 53-year-old Mary Hart was costing the show its young target audience. With Bob gone, can Mary be far behind?



Kidman: Not yet a legend.

KRT
in everyone's eyes, especially her own.

Q My husband and I saw a recent video by Ayman al-Zawahiri, the No. 2 man in al-Qaida. My husband says there is always a coded message embedded in these al-Qaida videos. I say he's paranoid. Who's right? — Barb Dubin, N.Y.

A You're husband isn't paranoid. Intelligence agencies have long suspected that al-Qaida videos contain secret signals alerting terrorist groups to take certain actions. But no one has been able to prove that the tilt of al-Zawahiri's turban or the placement of his rifle really conveys a hidden message.



KRT

R&B singer Usher, who is worth \$35 million, has the bucks to back his bling—and his face on a credit card.

Q I hear that R&B artist Usher spends money like it's going out of style. Can he afford it? — Donna Ward, Newton, Mass.

A You bet. Usher Raymond IV, 26, is worth around \$35 million. His latest CD, "Confessions," sold 1.1 million copies in its first week. Usher's extravagances include a 55-carat diamond pinky ring and a 400-diamond necklace. A debit card with Usher's picture was just issued for his loyal fans. Maybe he'll pick up their tab too.

Q Jude Law left his wife of six years, Sadie Frost, for Sienna Miller. How did these two lovebirds meet? — Anna M., Madison, Wis.

A While casting "Alfie," a remake of the 1966 Michael Caine film classic. But Sienna, 22, didn't break up the marriage, which already was headed for divorce. If Jude, 31, is anything like the cad he plays in "Alfie," opening stateside on Friday, we wonder how long this romance will last.



KRT

Jude Law might be taking his "Alfie" role a bit too far.

Q Geraldine Ferraro was battling multiple myeloma a few years back. How is she doing now? — Diana Gavin, Waukesha, Wis.

A "I'm fine," the 1984 vice presidential candidate tells us, "but I had a few medical blips over the last year, when the drug I was on stopped working." Happily, Ferraro, 69, found a newly approved drug for her rare form of blood cancer. "It restored my energy," she says. We wish her well.

Q Your item on Minnie Driver lip-synching in "Phantom" made me wonder: Did Deborah Kerr really sing in "The King and I"? — J. Seidel, Grand Blanc, Mich.

A No. That was Marni Nixon, who dubbed the vocals for many leading ladies of that era, including Natalie Wood in "West Side Story" and Audrey Hepburn in "My Fair Lady." At 74, Marni still enjoys a busy career as a singer and voice coach in New York.

OPINION

What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other stateside syndicates.

A Stern test for satellite radio
Chicago Tribune

Don't look now, but Howard Stern, of all people, has made everybody happy. [This month] the raunchy radio shock jock inked a multimillion-dollar deal to take his morning talk show from the broadcast airwaves to the fledgling medium of satellite radio.

Stern went to Sirius, the No. 2 satellite radio player behind the more-established XM. In a stroke, Sirius has become a weightier competitor, better equipped to pioneer a promising media technology. Wall Street sent Sirius shares up by 15 percent on the news. As Stern put it, "Sirius said to me, 'You're our Michael Jordan.'"

Now, for the sobering news: Sirius might not be able to afford Michael Jordan. XM and Sirius have lost tons of money as they have focused on gathering subscribers. To sign up, customers need to establish a special radio link in their home or car and pay a monthly fee for service. Despite its similarities to cable TV, it remains an unproven business model.

Get a college-aid education
Star-Gazette, Elmira, N.Y.

If only parents and students would take the time, they would find thousands of dollars already available through the federal government. Yet a study by the American Council on Education indicates that moms, dads and their college-bound children are stuck in a dead-end cycle of misunderstanding two main misconceptions: middle-income families believe they make too much money to qualify; and low-income families believe students need high SAT scores to qualify.

Those were some of the findings of the study that reached a number of startling conclusions, including the fact that more than 850,000 low-income students were eligible for federal Pell Grants — free money — but failed to apply.

The point is nothing ventured, nothing gained. Families who are too lazy to fill out the forms or give up under the assumption they don't qualify could be throwing away a golden opportunity to afford a college education. It just doesn't make sense.

Hopesful lack fiscal restraint
Los Angeles Times

Here's one thing John Kerry and George W. Bush have in common: neither is sufficiently concerned about those growing federal deficits and the fear that it will hurt them. My, where is Ross Perot when we need him? Both candidates say they have a plan to halve the deficit over the next four years. But as exalted moderator Charles Gibson pointed out in [the candidates' second] debate, it's hard to see how Bush or Kerry would get us from here to there.

Bush deserves being singled out for getting us into this mess.

It's fair for him to point out that the recession and the war on terror were bound to render meaningless the long-term, multi-trillion-dollar surplus estimates that greeted him when he was sworn in. But he should be considered for overlooking the ambitious tax cuts that were billed as a rebuff of those surpluses, even as the plus signs vaporized. It is one of the more damaging aspects of the candidates' lack of understanding to alter course in the face of altered circumstances.

The Kerry campaign has not capitalized on Bush's financial mismanagement as forcefully as it should, mainly because it has allowed its own wish list to get in the



CHRISTOPHER REEVE, 1952-2004

way of a clear pledge of fiscal responsibility. ... His deficit-halving plan ends up being as unrealistic as the president's.

Kerry and Bush are also equally guilty of not addressing the long-term viability of Social Security and Medicare. But to get candidates and voters to focus on doom-and-gloom projections, we may just have to call Perot back into the fray.

Plans need a shot in the arm
The Seattle Post-Intelligencer

It's going to be a fine mess of a flu season. Maybe the recent inability to give influenza shots will shake the federal government into addressing America's dangerously weak ability to assure vaccines to ward off a variety of illnesses.

The latest trouble occurred just as the flu season nears.

British officials shut down a Chiron Corp. plant over concerns about contamination, cutting off nearly half the vaccine doses for the United States this year.

Health authorities are asking most healthy people to refrain from vaccination so high-risk people get shots. Mandatory rationing should be imposed if necessary.

Britain's suspension of flu-shot deliveries caught U.S. health authorities by surprise. But these kinds of problems are becoming regular occurrences with many vaccines.

The breakdowns raise grave questions not just about America's ability to deal with routine preventable illnesses but also about preparedness for a flu pandemic or bioterrorist attack.

No-drift pledge betrays reality
The Advocate, Baton Rouge, La.

President Bush and John Kerry are making political promises neither can guarantee when each vows there will be no military draft on his watch.

To do so is foolhardy at best.

Nobody can say with certainty that a new draft will not become necessary, nor should anyone rule out that option. The U.S. military is stretched, recruitment is lagging and nobody can predict the future.

None of us, including Bush and Kerry, knows what is going to happen in Iraq, Afghanistan, North Korea or Iran, among other places, during the next four years.

Reinstatement of a formal draft might already have become necessary were it not

for the Guard and reservist call-ups and involuntary enlistment extensions.

We are not advocating reinstatement of the draft, nor are we suggesting, as rumored in some quarters, there is a secret plan to revive the draft after the election.

We are saying it is disingenuous, dishonest, naive or foolish to rule out the possibility of a draft.

Reeve made our spirits soar
Journal Star, Peoria, Ill.

Superman died [last] Sunday. No, not the comic action hero, but the real one, actor and activist Christopher Reeve. Reeve, who achieved fame by playing "Superman" in four movies, severed his spine and was paralyzed from the neck down in a horse-riding accident in 1995. Nine years of physical complications resulting from that injury eventually took their toll, as he went into a coma after surgery on Saturday, then lapsed into a coma. He was 52.

Though confined to a wheelchair and dependent on a respirator, the 6-foot-6-inch actor actually grew in stature following his injury. He continued to work and make movies. He lobbied Congress for improved insurance protection regarding catastrophic injury. He helped raise millions for research. Where there was once no hope for people who suffered injuries like his, he regained sensation in some parts of his body, won back movement in a finger, learned to breathe on his own without the ventilator for short periods of time.

Most of all Reeve proved that life need not end with serious disability, that you can function with dignity, that you can continue to laugh and cry and love. This terrible thing happened to him and yet he made the very, very best of it. Remember that the next time some minor irritation seems the end of the world.

And remember Christopher Reeve, a super man and an inspirational one.

Swing states can't swing costs
The Post and Courier, Charleston, S.C.

President Bush and Sen. John Kerry are paying frequent visits to a dozen or so "battleground states" for obvious political reasons. Thus, they are virtually ignoring a solid majority of the states, considering them either sure things or lost causes.

But don't lament this lack of attention too hastily.

From [Oct. 6] Wall Street Journal: "While the campaigns pay to rent party tents and halls, municipalities often get stuck with the bill for a variety of other costs, many related to security."

In Ohio, perhaps the most crucial "battleground" of all, several municipalities are suffering fiscal distress due to the seemingly relentless presence of Bush and Kerry. Cleveland, for instance, had already laid off 250 police officers in the past year as a result of a continuing budget squeeze.

Local officials in those beleaguered "battlegrounds" evidently lack confidence in pledges from the Bush and Kerry camps to eventually reimburse them for those expenses.

Perhaps voters should share that wariness as the two candidates offer assorted promises of new government largesse while offering little or no explanation of how they'll be funded. After all, taxpayers ultimately must pick up Washington's ever-escalating tab.

Just coasting until next storm
Pensacola (Fla.) News Journal

As the rebuilding of our barrier islands and beaches begins, as always in the aftermath of a hurricane, it is time to reconsider how we build on these fragile coastal areas.

If we do what has always been done before, here and elsewhere, we will simply rebuild right up to the edge of the water. And we'll rebuild bigger, more expensive homes and businesses.

That demonstrates a resilient spirit, but begs the important question: What happens if the next hurricane is worse? Or if, as scientists say, hurricanes are becoming more frequent?

One rational response by the federal and state governments would be to use [the Federal Emergency Management Agency] and other means to begin buying — at fair market prices — waterfront properties and leases on barrier islands and other areas prone to storm surges and the worst storm winds.

By slowly pulling back from the brink, future storms would do less property damage. That would hold down insurance losses (and thus premiums), reduce the cost of repairs to public infrastructure, and even allow restoration of the primary dune line on barrier islands, providing added future protection for areas north of the Gulf of Mexico shoreline.

YOUR MONEY

Emergency highlights need to know insurance

Susie Besaw, from the book "The Savvy Sailor's Spouse," is new to the military lifestyle but is eager to learn more about how to manage her family and her new lifestyle through the monthly Family Readiness Group meetings of her husband, Jake's, new command. Last week, Cmdr. Brown talked about estate planning.

On Friday morning, my head was still spinning from the FSG meeting. I woke up, washed my face and started my morning routine before taking Jake to work. Jake was already downstairs in his uniform having breakfast and had already made my four-cup wonder breakfast for me.

After I dropped Jake off at the base, I headed back home.

Driving up the cul-de-sac, I saw Maggie was sprawled on the front yard holding her ankle. It looked as if she sprained her ankle on the take out of the trash.

I parked the car and ran over to her.

"What can I do?" I asked.

"Order me a new right ankle... Oh my gosh!... It hurts," she replied. "I guess I won't be riding my bike for awhile. Can you help me back up in the house? I'll need to break out my Ace bandage and put some

ice on this thing. Then I'll need to call SMHS for an appointment with my doc. Any chance you could give me and little Jimmy a ride if the doc is available?"

"Sure," I replied, "whatever you need."

"Sierra Military Health Services," she replied. "They coordinate Tricare."

I was still confused about what she was talking about but let it go and helped Maggie up and into her house. We called SMHS at 1-888-999-5195. Her doctor had an appointment available at 11 a.m.

At 10:30, I loaded Maggie in the front seat of her car and put Jimmy, Maggie's 5-year-old son, in his car seat in the back.

As we drove, Maggie worried about not being able to take care of her home and Jimmy with a busted ankle. We talked about how all the never-ending responsibilities of running a home and raising a child required two good ankles. It made me think we sometimes take our good health for granted.

We arrived at the hospital 20 minutes

later. The doctor's office was on the second floor. I parked the car in the loading zone and grabbed a wheelchair in the lobby to bring Maggie in. Jimmy rode in her lap to the elevator, having way too much fun at his mom's expense. A gentleman took over for me and took both of them up to the office while I parked the car.

When I arrived in the doctor's office, the waiting room was packed. Maggie and Jimmy were playing in the kid's corner. I sat next to her and picked up a copy of "Green Eggs and Ham."

"How are you doing, neighbor?" I asked, putting my hand on her shoulder.

"Been better, thanks," she replied. "Thanks again for driving us. When I was lying there on the floor, I started to stress out."

"You could help me with something," I said. "How does the military medical care thing work? It hit me when I was helping you back into the house. I realized I didn't know much at all. I used to be on my parent's policy, and then after I married Jake, I just remember him saying I needed my

ID card if I ever needed to be treated. That's about it."

"I also remember they told me at NEX that I didn't qualify for their medical plan because I was working fewer than 30 hours per week. I didn't think twice about that because I figured I was covered by the Navy."

"OK," Maggie said. "I can give you the basics, but you'll learn more from our annual Tricare presentation at the next Family Readiness Group meeting."

"Tricare?" I asked.

"Tricare is the military's health insurance," she replied.

About that time a medical assistant came out and called Maggie.

Next week, Susie learns about Tricare.

Copies of Ralph Nelson's books — "The Savvy Sailor" and "The Savvy Naval Officer" — can be purchased by writing to: Master Plan Inc., 500 N. Washington St., P.O. Box 10071, Rockville, MD 20859 or online at www.savvyonweb.com. This article is written and the book is sold with the understanding that neither the author nor Stars and Stripes are professional financial advisers. If you need advice, please seek professional assistance. The author specifically disclaims any liability, loss or risk — personal or otherwise — incurred as a consequence, directly or indirectly, of using or applying any of the information contained in this article or the book. E-mail for feedback is: finance@stripes.osd.mil



Ralph Nelson

Prices don't spook Halloween revelers

Consumers going all out for fright

BY LESLIE EARNEST
Los Angeles Times

Halloween is the new Christmas.

It's growing faster, too, in terms of consumer spending. Christmas sales will be 4.5 percent higher this year than last, experts predict, while sales of Halloween goods will be up 5.4 percent. The National Retail Federation reckons that Americans will pay a record \$3 billion-plus this season on Halloween items such as hairy spiders, blow-up Draculas and plastic maggot that glow in the dark.

Sound spooky? Kathy Crawford thinks so, but in a good way. She's a manager at the Halloween Club, a store open year-round in Santa Fe Springs, Calif., that sells an unnerving array of pricey props, including a skeleton impaled on a pointed post, a fake dog that lunges from its doghouse as if to rip your head off and an "industrial wood chopper" with legs poking out one end and "flesh" and "blood" dripping from the other that goes for \$2,950.

"Look at the prices — people buy this stuff," said Crawford, who is greeted by waiting customers when she shows up for work on weekends. "This year, they're going all-out."

Increasingly, adults have been elbowing children out of the way to claim the creepiest holiday as their own. The trend will be pushed to the limit this Halloween because it falls on a Sunday, so the partying can start on Friday and continue throughout the weekend.

Nearly 60 percent of Americans will participate in the holiday this year and 56 percent of them will don costumes,

according to a poll conducted by shopping center owner Macerich Co. in Santa Monica, Calif. Roughly 21 percent of the respondents said they planned to outfit their pets.

"It's not one night out of the week anymore," said Scott Krugman, spokesman for the National Retail Federation, the industry's largest trade group. "It's like a monthlong celebration."

Halloween, which started out centuries ago as a festival for the dead, has reinvented itself over the years in the United States. In the early 1800s, it revolved around homey games and roasting nuts. By the end of that century, young people were taking the celebration into the streets, soaping windows and twisting street signs.

In the 1900s, schools, rotary clubs and philanthropic organizations joined forces to try to instill some discipline. "It seemed as though it was time by the late 40s and 50s, when trick-or-treating began," said Nick Rogers, a professor of history at York University in Toronto and author of "Halloween: From Pagan Ritual to Party Night."

Then adults began to see new opportunities for revelry, devising their own ways of celebrating and decorating. "What you've got by the 1970s or 80s, is a more diverse Halloween," Rogers said, "and a more commercial one."

Now, Halloween is a consuming free-for-all fueled by marketing and, according to social scientists, a desire to escape and the urge to have fun. Especially since Sept. 11, 2001, it has for some become a way to take a sledgehammer to pervasive fears about terrorism.

SEE Halloween ON PAGE 30



Donovan Gorham, 3, shows his mom a Halloween character at Spirit Halloween Superstore in Fresno, Calif., on Wednesday. Halloween spending will be up 5.4 percent this year, experts predict.

YOUR MONEY

Halloween: Retailers say holiday 'has just exploded'

HALLOWEEN, FROM PAGE 30

"The culture has lived with the threat of terror over the last few years and I think Halloween, in that context, may really have taken on greater significance," says Glenn Sparks, a communications professor at Purdue University who studies people's reaction to horrific images.

"It's a holiday that gives people a chance to control the things that they are scared of."

Barbara Sky has it down to a science. The 56-year-old construction company owner decorates her home in San Bernardino, Calif., to the hilt every October and invites as many as 100 children, and some adults, to celebrate. Her front yard is filled with pumpkins, a Frankenstein's monster, an animated witch and a slew of skeletons, and the back yard is a cemetery littered with coffins and a hand and feet crawling up from the earth.

Initially, Sky spent about \$1,000 a year as she collected props and decorations, but this season's pared her annual expenditure to less than half that. "The initial shock's over, because you use the same things" every year, she said.

For some Americans, Halloween outlays of hundreds of dollars

aren't out of this world. And the experts say they're getting more from their money. The rising demand for life-size witches, mummies and skeleton bibles holding dead bouquets means manufacturers are making more of them — usually in other countries — which has caused the prices to drop. Morris Costumes Inc. in Charlotte, N.C., began shipping "affordable" costumes this year, for \$74.95, Vice President Amy Morris said. On the other hand, it also sells a "Creepy the clown" for \$6,500.

"Halloween has just exploded," said Babloo Sawhney, vice president of First Imperial Trading Inc. in City of Commerce, which ships to 3,000 retailers throughout the country and also owns the Halloween Club. "More and more consumers want bigger props at better value."

It's all good news for merchants for whom Halloween has become an increasingly important bridge between the crucial back-to-school and Christmas shopping seasons. Specialty stores are sharing the benefits with a wide range of others, including discounters, drugstores, grocers and even hardware stores.

The Orchard Supply Hardware chain expects sales of Halloween goods to increase 25 percent this



Pumpkins depicting President Bush, left, and his Democratic challenger, Sen. John Kerry, are seen below another pumpkin depicting the White House on Wednesday at a carved pumpkin show in Salem, N.H. Halloween's popularity and holiday spending, have surged. Americans will spend a record \$3 billion-plus this year on Halloween-related items.

AP

season. Its Pasadena, Calif., outlet ordered some 50 "grim reapers" — an ugly face perched atop a black cloak that goes for \$21.99 — and sold out by the end of September.

"People really get into Halloween," said Kathy Sweeney, a spokeswoman for the hardware chain. "They just keep adding to

the collection, kind of like you do with Christmas; you keep adding to your ornaments, and the scarier the better."

Chris Savaris surveyed costumes recently at the seasonal store Halloween Illusions in Westminster, Calif. The 26-year-old safety consultant looked serious as he pondered the prospect of be-

coming a pirate, having been a cowboy, wizard and Mormon missionary on prior Halloweens.

Adults dress up to "reclaim a portion of our childhood, if just for a few hours," the Huntington Beach, Calif., resident said. Or, he added with a slight smile, "It might just be an excuse to find a place and have a good time."

FRIDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES								
	52-week High	Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	% Chg	YTD % Chg	52-week % Chg
	10,253.3	9,420.77	Dow Jones Industrials	9,533.38	+383.53	+3.8	+22.15	+19.65
	3,389.20	2,743.46	Dow Jones Transportation	3,323.58	+65.62	+1.9	+11.49	+15.65
	70,888	24,226	Dow Jones Utilities	30,163	+2,524	+8.4	+31.41	+19.65
	6,798.12	5,812.25	NASDAQ Composite	6,432.28	+365.84	+5.4	+23.65	+18.85
	1,291.81	1,014.66	Amex Index	1,285.65	+71.92	+6.3	+25.55	+26.25
	2,153.83	1,750.82	Nasdaq Composite	1,911.50	+242.33	+12.7	+31.41	+25.24
	1,632.73	1,018.32	S&P 500	6,659.50	+4.91	+0.1	+17.75	+17.75
	696.42	523.83	S&P MidCap	585.26	+121.4	+20.7	+16.19	+23.43
	11,717.14	9,900.89	Russell 2000	569.42	+254.53	+43.9	+25.24	+23.43
	11,717.14	9,900.89	VIX 5000	+59.18	+19.18	+32.4	+31.29	+31.29

NYSE					AMEX					NASDAQ				
Most Active (\$1 or more)					Most Active (\$1 or more)					Most Active (\$1 or more)				
Name	Vol	Oct	Last	Chg	Name	Vol	Oct	Last	Chg	Name	Vol	Oct	Last	Chg
Marshall	57921	29	5.65		Needham	126221	31.23		+18	SamCor	69328	3.97		+8
Amstar	97292	21	5.60		Amstar	42187	15.26		+18	Amstar	68172	2.68		+8
Amstar	97292	21	5.60		Amstar	42187	15.26		+18	Amstar	68172	2.68		+8
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Amstar	97292	21	5.60		Amstar	42187	15.26		+18	Amstar	68172	2.68		+8
Amstar	97292	21												

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS						KEY MUTUAL FUNDS					
Name	Chg	PE	Last	Chg	%YTD	Name	NAV	Chg	%YTD		
Adiant Technology Inc.	-	8	41.00	+1.00	+2.5%	Fidelity Invest: Global	36.71	+9	+14.4%		
Aerion Holdings	-	14	60.00	+1.00	+1.7%	Fidelity Invest: GrCo's	35.48	+9	+14.4%		
Bombard	-	41	54.19	+1.26	+2.3%	Amer Century Inv: Ultra	26.48	+9	+9.0%		
Boeing	-	29	53.00	+1.00	+1.9%	Fidelity Invest: GrCo's	35.48	+9	+14.4%		
Engineered Sup Sys	-	84	19.88	+0.64	+3.3%	Putnam Funds A: Grnk p	17.98	+8	+31.1%		
General Dynamics	-	14	60.00	+1.00	+1.7%	Fidelity Invest: Amer	35.45	+9	+14.4%		
General Electric	-	29	37.55	+0.89	+2.4%	Frank Temp Risk P: S&P500	29.84	+12	+9.9%		
General Motors	-	14	60.00	+1.00	+1.7%	AMF Investors: Corp	26.48	+9	+9.0%		
Harris Corp.	-	29	60.02	+1.21	+2.0%	Fidelity Invest: US801	11.21	+8	+23.8%		
Lockheed Martin	-	29	53.00	+1.00	+1.9%	AMF Investors: Corp	26.48	+9	+9.0%		
Northrop Grumman	-	29	38.42	+1.21	+3.1%	Fidelity Invest: T: Group	17.86	+12	+27.7%		
Raytheon	-	29	38.42	+1.21	+3.1%						
3M Communications	-	29	60.00	+1.00	+1.7%						
Westinghouse	-	29	38.42	+1.21	+3.1%						

NYSE					
Most Active (\$1 or more)	Net Chg	% YTD Chg	52-week High	52-week Low	
Amstar	95792	-2.50	-5.60	10,253.3	9,420.77
Amstar	95792	-2.50	-5.60	10,253.3	9,420.77
Amstar	95792	-2.50	-5.60	10,253.3	9,420.77
Amstar	95792	-2.50	-5.60	10,253.3	9,420.77
Amstar	95792	-2.50	-5.60	10,253.3	9,420.77
Amstar	95792	-2.50	-5.60	10,253.3	9,420.77
Amstar	95792	-2.50	-5.60	10,253.3	9,420.77
Amstar	95792	-2.50	-5.60	10,253.3	9,420.77
Amstar	95792	-2.50	-5.60	10,253.3	9,420.77
Amstar	95792	-2.50	-5.60	10,253.3	9,420.77

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
British pound (Oct. 18)	\$1.2794
Japanese yen (Oct. 18)	\$1.95
South Korean won (Oct. 18)	107.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.8034
Canada (Dollar)	\$1.2528
Denmark (Krone)	\$5.9897
Egypt (Pound)	\$6.2552
Euro	\$1.2480
Hong Kong (Dollar)	\$7.7877
Hungary (Forint)	200.12
Iceland (Krona)	66.66
Israel (Shekel)	4.4623
Japan (Yen)	109.19
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2946
Norway (Krone)	6.6617
Philippines (Peso)	56.40
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7500
Singapore (Dollar)	1.7303
South Korea (Won)	1145.40
Switzerland (Franc)	1.2308
Thailand (Baht)	41.45
Turkey (Lira)	1,492,537.00
(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance and financial information, claiming the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange, the U.S. purchasing British pounds in Germany is based on your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference in buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars to two, and the euro, which is dollars to euro.)	

(i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

PRECIOUS METALS

New York Merc close

Gold	\$418.70
Silver	\$7.09

INTEREST RATES	
Prime rate	4.75
Discount rate	2.75
Federal funds market rate	1.6125
3-month bill	1.73
30-year bond	4.83
Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America	

Cents and Sensibility Money tip of the day

Phone-voting scams seen

CBS MarketWatch

NEW YORK — When you register to vote, make sure you aren't signing up to become a victim of fraud.

The Federal Trade Commission warns that telephone scam artists have been taking advantage of the election year. The caller will ask for personal data and even financial information, claiming it is necessary to register you to vote or to confirm that you are registered.

Voter registration is typically completed in one of two ways: in person or by mailing in a registration form. The only calls regarding voter registration you should receive are ones alerting you to local drives.

Legitimate registration forms and state guidelines. Download the forms at www.fec.gov/voteregis/pdf/nvra.pdf.

If you have received an unsolicited phone call from someone asking for your personal or financial information for voter registration, report the incident to the FTC. Call 1-877-FTC-HELP or file a complaint online at www.consumer.gov/idtheft.

PRECIOUS METALS

New York Merc	
Gold	\$418.70
Silver	\$7.09
INTEREST RATES	
Prime rate	4.75
Discount rate	2.75
Federal funds market rate	1.8025
3-month bill	1.73
30-year bond	5.29
Source: The Associated Press, Bank of America	

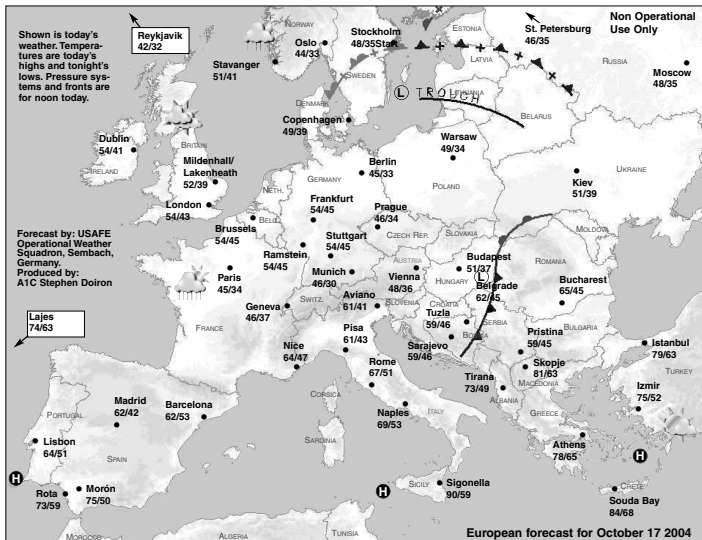
To our readers

Liz Pulliam Weston's "Money Talk" column will return soon. Stripes apologizes to her weekly readers.

Discover why so many people are saying...

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FINANCIAL PLANNING
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AFRICA

Capetown	74	57	Mogadishu	86	74
Dakar	79	73	Nairobi	70	45
Freeport	88	76	Rabat	77	61
Kinshasa	87	72	Tripoli	82	66

THE WORLD

Amsterdam	48	42	Manila	80	77
Bahrein	89	81	Mexico City	70	42
Beijing	72	48	Montreal	56	42
Bombay	77	60	Nairobi	70	45
Buenos Aires	78	68	Rio de Janeiro	78	68
Buenos Aires	78	68	Sao Paulo	78	68
Calcutta	84	71	Singapore	77	68
Chengdu	66	39	Sydney	77	68
Hong Kong	84	71	Tokyo	79	49

TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

Alaska	50	40	OK	52	47
Alaska	50	40	OK	52	47
Alaska	50	40	OK	52	47
Alaska	50	40	OK	52	47
Alaska	50	40	OK	52	47
Alaska	50	40	OK	52	47
Alaska	50	40	OK	52	47
Alaska	50	40	OK	52	47
Alaska	50	40	OK	52	47
Alaska	50	40	OK	52	47

Hamburg	57	38	PC	57	38
Hamburg	57	38	PC	57	38
Hamburg	57	38	PC	57	38
Hamburg	57	38	PC	57	38
Hamburg	57	38	PC	57	38
Hamburg	57	38	PC	57	38
Hamburg	57	38	PC	57	38
Hamburg	57	38	PC	57	38
Hamburg	57	38	PC	57	38
Hamburg	57	38	PC	57	38

Nashville	70	59	PC	70	59
Nashville	70	59	PC	70	59
Nashville	70	59	PC	70	59
Nashville	70	59	PC	70	59
Nashville	70	59	PC	70	59
Nashville	70	59	PC	70	59
Nashville	70	59	PC	70	59
Nashville	70	59	PC	70	59
Nashville	70	59	PC	70	59
Nashville	70	59	PC	70	59

San Diego	80	64	PC	80	64
San Diego	80	64	PC	80	64
San Diego	80	64	PC	80	64
San Diego	80	64	PC	80	64
San Diego	80	64	PC	80	64
San Diego	80	64	PC	80	64
San Diego	80	64	PC	80	64
San Diego	80	64	PC	80	64
San Diego	80	64	PC	80	64
San Diego	80	64	PC	80	64

EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelex: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers. Highs in the mid 50s with lows in the low to mid 40s.

Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers in the morning becoming partly cloudy in the evening. Highs in the low to mid 50s with lows in the high 30s to low 40s.

Croatia and Bosnia: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms and fog in the morning becoming partly cloudy in the evening. Highs in the upper 50s with lows in the upper 40s.

France: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers. Highs in the mid 40s with lows in the mid 30s and low 40s.

Northern Germany: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the mid 40s to mid 50s with lows in the low 30s and low 40s.

Southern Germany: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers. Highs in the mid 40s to mid 50s with lows in the low 30s and low 40s.

Hungary: Mostly cloudy with rain. Highs in the low 50s with lows in the upper 30s.

Northern Italy: Partly to mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the low 60s with lows in the low to mid 40s.

Southern Italy: Sunny to cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the upper 60s with lows in the low 40s.

Kosovo: Partly cloudy with morning fog becoming mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms in the evening. Highs in the mid 50s with lows in the mid 40s.

Norway: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers. Highs will be in the mid 40s to low 50s with lows in the low 30s to low 40s.

Portugal, Spain: Sunny to partly cloudy with highs in the low 60s to mid 70s with lows in the low 40s to low upper 50s.

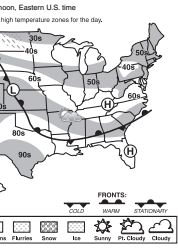
Turkey: Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid to upper 70s with lows in the upper 40s to low 60s.

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAF Operational Weather Squadron home page at: <https://www.sembach.af.mil>
<http://www.public.sembach.af.mil>

SUN & MOON

Sunrise (Baghdad)	7:09 AM	7:10 AM
Sunrise (Frankfurt)	7:52 AM	7:54 AM
Sunset (Baghdad)	6:27 PM	6:25 PM
Sunset (Frankfurt)	6:31 PM	6:29 PM

THE UNITED STATES TODAY



Scheduled to **ETS** or **PCS**?

Check our Forecast Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.

STARS & STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper

SCOREBOARD

AFN TV & Radio

Sunday

AFN-Pacific, 1:10 a.m. — Auto racing: NASCAR Nextel Cup, IAW-GM Quality 500. **AFN-Sports, 1:30 a.m.** — Baseball: NLCS, Game 4, N.Y. Yankees at Boston.

AFN-Pacific, 2:30 a.m. — Baseball: ALCS, Game 4, N.Y. Yankees at Boston. **AFN-Sports, 4:30 a.m.** — College football: Tennessee at Mississippi (joined in pregame).

AFN-Sports, 6 a.m. — NBA preseason: Sacramento vs. Houston at NBA (joined in pregame). **AFN-Pacific, 7 a.m.** — Baseball: NLCS, Game 3, Los Angeles at Houston (died).

AFN-Pacific, 1:10 p.m. — College football: Virginia Tech at FSU (died). **AFN-Sports, 1:30 p.m.** — College football: Wisconsin at Purdue (died).

AFN-Pacific, 7 p.m. — NFL: Seattle at Atlanta. **AFN-Pacific, 7 p.m.** — NFL: Seattle at Atlanta. **AFN-Pacific, 7 p.m.** — NFL: Green Bay at Detroit.

AFN-Pacific, 10 p.m. — Baseball: ALCS, Game 5, necessary, N.Y. Yankees at Boston. **AFN-Pacific, 10 p.m.** — NFL: Denver at Oakland (ALCS is over).

AFN-Pacific, 10 p.m. — NFL: Pittsburgh at Dallas. **AFN-Pacific, 10 p.m.** — Baseball: ALCS, Game 5, necessary, N.Y. Yankees at Boston.

AFN-Pacific, 10 p.m. — NFL: Denver at Oakland (ALCS is over).

Monday

AFN-Pacific, 1:10 a.m. — Baseball: NLCS, Game 4, L.A. Dodgers at Houston. **AFN-Sports, 1:30 a.m.** — Baseball: NLCS, Game 4, L.A. Dodgers at Houston.

AFN-Pacific, 2:30 a.m. — Baseball: NLCS, Game 4, L.A. Dodgers at Houston. **AFN-Sports, 4:30 a.m.** — Auto racing: IRL, Chevy 300 (died).

AFN-Pacific, 1:10 p.m. — College football: Clemson at Wake Forest (died). **AFN-Sports, 1:30 p.m.** — Baseball: NLCS, Game 4, L.A. Dodgers at Houston (died).

All times are Central European Time due to indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Schedule changes not available in all areas. Visit www.mysfn.net for more information.

Pro football

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	4	0	1.000	98	63
N.Y. Jets	4	0	1.000	98	63
Miami	0	5	0.000	42	87

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	4	1	0.800	159	106
Houston	3	2	0.600	118	72
San Diego	3	2	0.600	118	72

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	3	2	0.600	112	94
Baltimore	3	2	0.600	97	79
Cincinnati	1	3	0.250	66	85

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	3	0	1.000	99	74
San Diego	3	0	1.000	148	110
Kansas City	2	3	0.400	89	110

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	4	0	1.000	107	57
N.Y. Giants	4	0	1.000	104	72
Dallas	3	2	0.600	97	61
Washington	3	2	0.600	71	65

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Francisco	3	2	0.600	98	96
New Orleans	3	2	0.600	92	127
Atlanta	2	3	0.400	71	85
Tampa Bay	1	4	0.200	69	89

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Detroit	3	1	0.750	78	78
Green Bay	3	1	0.750	112	72
Chicago	3	1	0.750	68	76
Seattle	3	1	0.750	109	94
Green Bay	3	1	0.750	112	72
San Francisco	1	4	0.200	91	137

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay at Detroit	3	1	0.750	112	72
Miami at Buffalo	3	1	0.750	112	72
San Diego at Chicago	3	1	0.750	112	72
San Francisco at N.Y. Jets	3	1	0.750	112	72
San Francisco at New England	3	1	0.750	112	72
Kansas City at Jacksonville	3	1	0.750	112	72
Carolina at Kansas City	3	1	0.750	112	72
Carolina at Dallas	3	1	0.750	112	72
Denver at Oakland	3	1	0.750	112	72
Indianapolis at Dallas	3	1	0.750	112	72
Indianapolis, Arizona, N.Y. Giants, Baltimore	3	1	0.750	112	72

Sunday's games
Miami at Buffalo
Houston at Tennessee
San Diego at Chicago
San Francisco at N.Y. Jets
San Francisco at New England
Kansas City at Jacksonville
Carolina at Kansas City
Carolina at Dallas
Denver at Oakland
Indianapolis at Dallas
Indianapolis, Arizona, N.Y. Giants, Baltimore

Monday's game
Tampa Bay at Miami
St. Louis at Atlanta
N.Y. Jets at N.Y. Giants
Buffalo at Baltimore
Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay
Jacksonville at Indianapolis
Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay
San Diego at Carolina
Dallas at Cleveland
Tennessee at Minnesota
New England at New England
Dallas at Green Bay

College football

Saturday, Oct. 25

No. 1 Southern Cal. vs. No. 2 Oklahoma State
No. 2 Oklahoma at Kansas State
No. 3 Auburn vs. Arkansas
No. 4 Purdue vs. No. 10 Wisconsin
No. 5 Virginia at No. 7 Florida State
No. 6 Florida vs. UCLA
No. 7 Texas vs. Missouri
No. 8 Texas Tech at North Carolina
No. 12 Georgia vs. Vanderbilt
No. 13 Tennessee at Mississippi
No. 14 Michigan at Illinois
No. 15 Oklahoma State vs. No. 23 Texas
AAM

No. 19 Minnesota at Michigan State
No. 20 Boise State at Tulsa
No. 21 Ohio State vs. Middle Tennessee
No. 24 Southern Mississippi at Alabama
No. 25 Ohio State vs. No. 25 Texas

Friday's scores
C.W. Post 14, S. Connecticut 7
UAB 41, TCU 25

Auto racing

SpongeBob SquarePants

Movie 3D

Friday
At Low's Motor Speedway
Concord, N.C.
Lap length: 1.5 miles
No. 14 (20) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 200, 53.0
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No. 18 (20) Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet, 200, 54.0
No. 19 (20) Casey Mears, Dodge, 200, 54.0
No. 20 (20) Casey Mears, Dodge, 200, 54.0
No. 21 (20) Casey Mears, Dodge, 200, 54.0
No. 22 (20) Casey Mears, Dodge, 200, 54.0
No. 23 (20) Casey Mears, Dodge, 200, 54.0
No. 24 (20) Casey Mears, Dodge, 200, 54.0
No. 25 (20) Casey Mears, Dodge, 200, 54.0

Friday
At Low's Motor Speedway
Concord, N.C.
Lap length: 1.5 miles
No. 14 (20) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 200, 53.0
No. 15 (20) Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet, 200, 53.0

Seahawks out to break up Patriots' streak

BY DAVE GOLDBERG

The Associated Press

In the first 232 minutes of its season, Seattle held opponents to 23 points. Then it allowed 23 in the next 11 minutes, blowing last week's game against St. Louis in overtime.

So now it's the one-loss Seahawks instead of the unbeaten ones who will try to end New England's NFL record 19-game winning streak Sunday in Foxboro. It might take a little luster off the matchup, but Seattle certainly is the best team the Patriots have faced since their opener, when they barely held on against Indianapolis.

The Patriots are favored by four points, a number that reflects the Seahawks' ability. That's the home-field advantage, or perhaps for the Seahawks' air mileage.

New England will have to play better this week than it did against Miami, when it won simply by showing up. And Tom Brady probably will need more than seven completions for 76 yards, which is what he had against the Dolphins.

Mike Holmgren was relatively calm after the loss to the Rams, although the Seahawks' coach acknowledged that in the past, he might have "erupted like Mount St. Helens."

Holmgren has won one Super Bowl, been to another and probably is one of the few offensive coaches in the league who can match wits with New England coach Bill Belichick.

More motivation for Seattle: Matt Hasselbeck's career spent seven years as a backup at the end with the Patriots. He was a ball boy for the team, and he went to Boston College.

The streak has to end some time.

The Patriots may say they don't feel the

pressure, but as with the 1998 Broncos — the last team to win 18 straight before New England — they know it's there.

That Denver team went on to win the Super Bowl. New England will take this loss and that win.

SEAHAWKS, 20-19

Carolina (plus 8½) at Philadelphia: The Eagles want revenge for the loss in last season's NFC championship game. How can they not get it with so many Panthers out, the latest All-Pro defensive tackle Kris Jenkins, who is lost for the season with a shoulder injury? ... **EAGLES, 27-10.**

Green Bay (plus 2) at Detroit: Even when the Packers are playing well and the Lions badly, Detroit often beats Green Bay at home. ... **LIONS, 28-20.**

Tampa Bay (plus 6) at St. Louis (Monday night): Another trend: Brian Griese plays badly after a good game. ... **RAMS, 17-6.**

Pittsburgh (plus 3) at Dallas: If Big Ben survives Tuna's defense, he should have been the No. 1 overall pick. ... **COWBOYS, 13-12.**

Miami (plus 6½) at Buffalo: Three of Buffalo's first losses are by a total of eight points. ... **BILLS, 11-3.**

San Diego (plus 5) at Atlanta: Drew Brees' passer rating is 100. Michael Vick's is 77.7. Vick has better legs. ... **FALCONS, 26-20.**

Kansas City (minus 1½) at Jacksonville: Two teams going in opposite directions? ... **CHIEFS, 23-20.**

Minnesota (minus 3) at New Orleans: No one can figure out the Saints, certainly not Jim Haslett. ... **SAINTS, 34-33.**

Denver (minus 1½) at Oakland: Mike Shanahan, fired by the Raiders in 1989, is 14-4 against them. ... **BRONCOS, 20-14.**

San Francisco (plus 10) at New York Jets: The 49ers have allowed 66 points in two road games. ... **JETS, 66-20.**

Houston (plus 6½) at Tennessee: The



Seattle Seahawks cornerback Ken Lucas intercepts a pass intended for St. Louis Rams wide receiver Torry Holt (81). Seattle takes on undefeated New England on Sunday.

Texans will put up more resistance than the Packers. ... **TITANS, 24-20.**

Cincinnati (plus 3) at Cleveland: Marvin Lewis over Butch Davis because Lewis has had a week to prepare. ... **BENGALS, 24-23.**

Washington (pick 'em) at Chicago: Good defense vs. bad offense on both sides. ... **BEARS, 10-6.**

Last game: 8-6 (spread), 10-4 (straight up). **Season:** 41-31-2 (spread), 53-21 (straight up).

Hands-on owner suffocating woeful Redskins

BY CHRIS HARRY

The Orlando Sentinel

ORLANDO, Fla. — In the five years since he bought the Washington Redskins franchise he grew up worshipping as youngster in Maryland — Dan Snyder has fired or run off hundreds of employees, be them coaches, assistants, executives, players, whoever.

The next person he should target is himself.

Aside from bad karma — and the fish always stinks from the head down — there is just no other explanation for the run of multimillion-dollar flops and underachievement the midget mogul has subjected the once-proud franchise to since taking control of the team in 1999.

Snyder may spend money, but he's on the fast track to being the NFL's version of L.A. Clippers owner Donald Sterling. Everything he touches — on the field, that is — turns to failure.

Even Joe Gibbs, for crying out loud, who is now hearing whispers that the game has passed him by.

"I expect that," said Gibbs, 63. "I knew when I took this job that if I lost we ballgame, that's one of the first things that would be said. There's only way to change it."

Yeah, but Snyder isn't going anywhere.

Commentary

Consider:

■ Gibbs, winner of three Super Bowls, retired after the 1992 season as one of the greatest offensive minds in NFL history. So far, his offense is averaging 14 points per game (29th in the league) and is minus-7 in turnovers on a team that is 1-4 with each game decided by seven points or less. Gibbs' clock management and replay challenges have been questionable. Worse, the Redskins have been outsmarted on two trick plays (against Dallas and Baltimore) that have been the difference in two home defeats. The 107 yards Washington's offense gained in Sunday night's 17-10 loss to the Ravens were the fewest by a Redskins team since Nov. 26, 1961.

■ The Redskins have turned the team over to aging quarterback Matt Russell, 34, they gave away a third-round pick to get him, then signed him to a \$43 million contract (with an \$8 million bonus). He looks like a gunfighter who has lost his nerve and his brain. Brunell no longer can throw the deep ball or escape a rush, which were his strengths with Jacksonville. In throwing for



Washington tight end Walter Rasky, center, is flipped by Cleveland's Warrick Holdman, left, and Earl Little during the Browns' 17-13 victory on Oct. 3. The Redskins average 14 points a game, 29th in the NFL.

just 83 yards last week against the Ravens, he averaged 4.1 yards — 17 yards per attempt.

■ Washington traded four-time Pro Bowl cornerback Champ Bailey and a second-round pick for running back Clinton Portis, who then was signed to a record \$50.5 million deal. The Redskins figured he could become the kind of ball-control maven Gibbs' wild-

ly successful former teams thrived with. But since rushing for 148 yards in the season-opening win vs. Tampa Bay, Portis has averaged 3.1 per carry, fumbled four times (twice setting up TDs in narrow losses) and isn't talking to the media.

In the meantime, it's worth noting that Denver — famous for making good running backs look

great — has received a 156-yard game from Quentin Griffin and a 193-yard game from Reuben Droughns. Neither is making \$50.5 million.

■ Remember that controversial \$35 million signing (with \$13 million up front) of restricted free agent wide receiver Laveranues Coles last year? Well, Brunell can't even get him the ball. And in a 17-13 loss to the Cleveland Browns, Coles made a first-down catch on a potential game-winning drive, then fumbled the ball away.

■ Defense was supposed to be Washington's biggest concern in 2004. New coordinator Gregg Williams — even with linebacker LaVar Arrington sidelined by a knee injury — has managed to field the No. 3 unit in the NFL. Against Baltimore, the Redskins intercepted three passes in the first half en route to a 10-0 lead. In the second half, the defense watched the score change to 14-10 without ever being on the field, thanks to a Brunell fumble and a punt return for a touchdown.

I've heard Kansas City, Green Bay and Tampa Bay being spoken about as the biggest disappointments of this young season. I can give you millions of reasons why such a conversation should begin with the Redskins.

Snyder, unfortunately, already did.

Again.

Rams not concerned about Bulger's injury

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Rams quarterback Marc Bulger practiced Friday, having mostly recovered from the bruised shoulder he hurt in last week's overtime victory over the Seattle Seahawks.

Bulger, who threw for 325 yards and produced 17 points in the final six minutes of regulation, was listed as probable. Coach Mike Martz said he didn't know when Bulger had been hurt until the day after the game.

"He needed to throw yesterday and he said he felt great today," Martz said. "He's back to normal. I was very concerned originally but there's no effect at all — he had all the zip."

Defensive tackle Tyoka Jackson has not practiced all week due to a pulled left hamstring and said his chance of playing against the Bucs on Monday night was "less than 10 percent." Jackson was listed as doubtful and if he can't play, rookie Anthony Hargrove likely would get more playing time on the line rotation.

"It's not at it's best, I'll tell you that," Jackson said.

Hargrove was the team's third-round pick and was drafted as an end before getting work at right and left tackle.

"He's going to be just fine, he's going to be a real good player," Martz said. "The effort and the physical ability is there, so we've got to keep working with him."

Hargrove said he's struggled to grasp the playbook since being moved from right tackle to left tackle.

"I have to switch my whole mind-set," Hargrove said. "We were out there for the walk-through and I'm the only guy sweating and it's because my mind is trying to put things together."

Offensive guard Scott Terrence likely will start again for Chris Dishman, who has missed the last two games with a hyperextended right knee. Dishman was questionable, although he said the knee has improved and he's been practicing.

Fiedler: 'I'm good to go'

DAVIE, Fla. — Miami Dolphins quarterback Jay Fiedler said he'll start Sunday at Buffalo despite missing practice time this week with a cracked rib.

"I'm playing and I'm good to go," he said Friday.

Fiedler aggravated the injury Sunday in a 24-10 loss to New England and sat out the end of the game. He missed practice Wednesday but returned Thursday.

Redskins' Arrington, Hall out

ASHBURN, Va. — Washington Redskins linebacker LaVar Arrington and kicker John Hall were ruled out for Sunday's game against the Chicago Bears.

Arrington will miss his fourth consecutive game since having knee surgery on Sept. 22. Leninar Marshall will start again in his spot.

Hall strained his groin during practice on Thursday. It was his third leg injury of the year, following hamstring injuries in the first two games of the season. The Redskins are expected to sign kicker



Ola Kimrin on Saturday. Kimrin was with the Redskins during training camp and was on the practice squad briefly.

The Redskins on Friday also downgraded cornerback Andre Lott and kick returner Chad Morton from probable to question-

able. Lott has missed the last two games with a hamstring injury and Morton has been bothered by a sore knee.

Jags DE Barnes put on IR

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — The Jacksonville Jaguars now have lost both starting defensive ends for the season.

The Jags placed Lionel Barnes on injured reserve Friday with a shoulder injury. Barnes hurt his shoulder Sept. 19 against Denver.

He missed one game but returned to the starting lineup two weeks ago against Indianapolis. He did not play last week at San Diego.

Paul Spicer, who started the first two games opposite Barnes, was lost for the season with a knee injury.

Without Barnes and Spicer, coach Jack Del Rio moved Pro Bowl defensive tackle Marcus Stroud to end against the Charge-

ers. San Diego ran for 176 yards against Jacksonville's vaunted defense, mostly up the middle.

The Jags have tried to solidify their defensive line as they prepare to host Kansas City on Sunday.

They claimed defensive end Elton Patterson off Cincinnati's practice squad Friday and signed him to a contract. The Jaguars also re-signed defensive lineman Derrick Ransom, who they cut Sept. 5.



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For Broncos, no problem getting ready for Raiders

BY EDDIE PELLIS
The Associated Press

DENVER — After coaching the Raiders for a little over a year and against them for the bulk of his pro career, Mike Shanahan has never stopped picking up little nuances that make the trips to Oakland easier.

"I learned it's better to hang out around the 10-yard line instead of the end zone during warm-ups," he said. "That way you don't get hit by the batteries."

Yes, it's "Raiders Week" in Denver, that twice-annual rite of passage that allows the Broncos and their fans to work themselves into a lather about the team they love to hate the most.

"I remember when I first got here, a lot of people came up to me and said, 'We don't care if you win any game, as long as you beat the Raiders,'" linebacker Al Wilson said.

Of course, lines like that are uttered all over the league, anywhere a long-standing rivalry exists.

Just last summer, when Lovie Smith was hired as coach of the Chicago Bears, he said one of his main priorities would be to start beating the Green Bay Packers again (he already has once this year). Before Steve Spurrier began his failed two-year tenure with the Washington Redskins, he said beating Dallas would be at the top of his list (he won't do it).

In Denver, though, it never really needed to be said — not since



Denver Broncos at Oakland Raiders
10 p.m. Sunday
AFC-Atlantic
Game time is Central European.

the Broncos got good in 1977 and turned this into a rivalry, and especially not since Shanahan became coach 10 years ago.

Al Davis hired and fired Shanahan in 1988-89 and the firing left some lingering bitterness. Most notably, Davis still owed Shanahan a \$250,000 on his contract, but refused to pay it — even after an arbitrator ruled in Shanahan's favor.

"I guess you could say I'm not on his Christmas card list," Shanahan said, repeating a statement he's made many times when asked about his relationship with the colorful Raiders owner.

Of course, Shanahan came back to Denver as an assistant after his firing. Then, after leaving again for a few more years, he came back to the Broncos again as coach and led them to two Super Bowl victories.

Did he learn from his travels in Oakland, where he went 10-12 over one-plus seasons, including 2-1 against the Broncos? Of course.

"No matter what profession you are in, you always think when you get older you get a little bit more mature," Shanahan said.

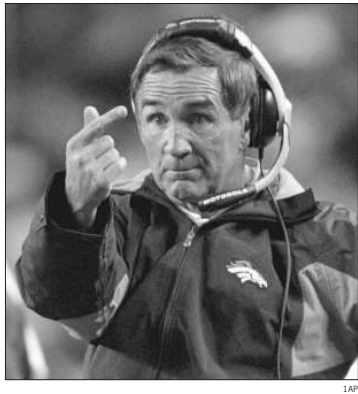
"You learn from the mistakes that you make, and you are always trying to learn. When you get in that position where you have some authority, you are always hoping that you make the right decision and you learn from your mistakes."

This rivalry isn't just about the coach against his old team.

The anger has been brewing pretty much since 1977, Denver's first Super Bowl season, and it became clear the season could be pretty special on a sunny October day in Oakland, when the Broncos defeated the Raiders 30-7.

Joe Rizzo intercepted three passes off Ken Stabler and kicker Jim Turner caught a long touchdown pass from holder Norris Weese on a fake field goal. With the rout on, Tom Jackson yelled at Raiders coach John Madden, "It's over, fat man."

Since then, there have been too many memorable moments to count. Gary Kubiak, making an emergency start and leading the Broncos to a 22-19 overtime victory in 1994; Winston Moss showing John Elway out of bounds and under the Raiders' beam as Elway headed for the sidelines in 1992; former Broncos coach Wade Phillips getting booed off his own field after a 48-16 loss in 1994; Denver fans pelting the Raiders with snowballs during a victory in 1999, and Raiders offensive



Denver Broncos coach Mike Shanahan still works up a special kind of intensity for the Oakland Raiders, the team that fired him and then stiffed him for the remaining money owed him under his contract.

sive lineman Lincoln Kennedy answering by throwing a punch at the fans.

The list goes on. Yet maybe one of the most intriguing facts about this series has more to do with the record book than anything that happened on the field.

Since the Broncos turned this into a rivalry 26 seasons ago, the series has been swamped a whopping 21 times.

What does it mean? Nobody's quite certain.

But in 1985, the Broncos went 11-5 and failed to make the playoffs. That still stands as the best record in NFL history not to quali-

fy for the postseason. A victory over Oakland in either of those games would have made the difference.

Fighting for the playoffs in the last game of the 1995 season, the Raiders blew an 11-point lead against a Denver team that was already out of postseason contention and lost 31-28. Oakland joined the Broncos on the couch because of it, and suddenly, Denver's 8-8 record in Shanahan's first year as its head coach didn't seem so bad.

"The Raiders had a lot at stake," Elway said after that one. "It gets rid of some of our frustration, because it is on the road. And it's against the Raiders."

'The Trade' likely to play role in Chargers-Falcons outcome

BY PAUL NEWBERRY
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Three years after The Trade, neither team has any complaints.

The Atlanta Falcons got Michael Vick, who quickly led them into the playoffs and became an icon for the NFL with his dazzling skills.

The San Diego Chargers went with LaDainian Tomlinson as Drew Brees, along with Reggie Caldwell and Tim Dwight. Not too shabby, either.

"Let bygones be bygones," Vick said. "It worked out for both teams. They have a great running back and a good quarterback in Drew Brees, who's playing real well right now. And I think the Falcons got what they wanted."

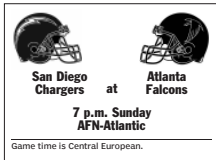
On Sunday, the teams meet for the first time since the blockbuster trade. The Falcons (4-1) are trying to bounce back from their first loss of the season, while San Diego (3-2) is just one game off the lead in the AFC West.

Rest assured, someone involved in that 2001 deal will play a key role.

"I'd say both teams prospered quite well from the trade," Chargers coach Marty Scottenheimer said.

Atlanta set its sights on Vick after he put on in spectacular fashion at Virginia Tech, then entered the NFL draft.

The Falcons were set to pick fifth, too far down to get one of the best college players



San Diego Chargers at Atlanta Falcons
7 p.m. Sunday
AFC-Atlantic
Game time is Central European.

to come along in years. So they called up the Chargers, who had the first overall selection, but were bogged down trying to agree on a contract with Vick's agent.

When the Falcons offered an attractive package of three picks and receiver-return specialist Dwight, the Chargers accepted on the eve of the draft.

Vick spent one season as a backup, then took over the starting job in 2002. He guided the Falcons into the playoffs, was voted to the Pro Bowl and set an NFL record for quarterbacks by rushing for 173 yards in a game.

With the picks acquired from the Falcons, the Chargers got Tomlinson, Caldwell and cornerback Tay Cody. After passing up Vick, they also used one of their own picks to trade Brees, forever linking him to the trade.

Cody started 11 games before he was cut last year. Everyone else acquired by the

Chargers is still contributing, no one more than Tomlinson.

He rushed for more than 1,200 yards as a rookie, then topped 1,600 yards each of the last two seasons. In 2003, he became the first player in NFL history to run for more than 1,000 yards and catch 100 passes in a season. By the time this season is finished, he figures to hold virtually every rushing record in team history.

Brees is in his third season as the starting quarterback, keeping the job even after the Chargers picked Philip Rivers in the first round this year. The veteran has played well in two straight victories and actually has a higher quarterback rating (100) than Vick (77.7).

And the others? Caldwell is second on the team with 17 receptions and Dwight is returning kickoffs, already bringing back one for a touchdown.

"I don't think that there is anybody who can really argue what we've done for our teams, and I think it's only going to get better," Tomlinson said.

He doesn't view his first game against Vick as a chance to prove who got the upper hand in the trade, or show the Falcons what they missed.

"Like I've said all along, I play a different position than Mike," Tomlinson said. "It just happened that it worked out the way it did. It wasn't like I was going to go to Atlanta."

Vick certainly could have been in San

Diego. He visited the city before the 2001 draft and was eager to play for the Chargers.

"I used to think about it all the time," he said. "But now Atlanta is my home and I love it. This is where I want to be."

Brees was the second quarterback taken in the 2001 draft.

Because he wasn't technically part of the trade, he doesn't spend a lot of time worrying about how he stacks up to Vick.

"It's fun to kind of follow his career a little bit, and the fact that this is the first opportunity we get to play against each other," Brees said. "I think the majority of the people are going to say 'Hey, this is the blockbuster trade, the Michael Vick-LaDainian Tomlinson deal.' I'm just along for the ride."

In an interesting twist, most of those who engineered the trade are no longer around.

San Diego coach Mike Riley was fired after the 2001 season and Chargers general manager John Butler died last year after a nine-month battle with cancer. On the Atlanta side, owner Taylor Smith sold the team less than a year after acquiring Vick and coach Dan Reeves was fired late last season.

Jim Mora, the Falcons' first-year coach, had to be brought up to speed on the deal that shaped both franchises so dramatically.

"I guess we're both winners," he said. "I didn't even know there was a trade until somebody mentioned it to me."

It's Mad, mad, from Midnight to March

NCAA champ Connecticut among schools beginning drive to a national title with Midnight Madness show

BY DONNA TOMMELLE

The Associated Press

STORRS, Conn. — Thousands of fans wildly cheered as the defending national champions Connecticut Huskies burst into the gym, each with a Hollywood-like introduction amid smoke, music and laser lights.

One player, however, missed all of that at 12:01 a.m. Saturday when college basketball practice officially started. Freshman guard A.J. Price remains hospitalized for an intracranial hemorrhage suffered nearly two weeks ago. He's been at Hartford Hospital since Oct. 4, and is slowly improving.

Cochin Jim Calhoun made sure the crowd didn't forget him.

"There is one Husky not with us, and we don't know when he will be," Calhoun said. "But hopefully it will be sometime soon. By the time he's done here, he's going to be one of the greatest players in UConn history."

There was plenty of cheering at other schools, as well, as Midnight Madness was observed at such powerhouse schools as Kansas, Kentucky, Indiana, North Carolina, Maryland and Michigan State.



Paul Wedrychowicz displays his unique headgear Saturday during Midnight Madness at Connecticut.

"This is unique.

You don't find this at too many schools. That's why it's such a spectacle, such an event, such a happening."

Tubby Smith
Kentucky coach

Calhoun is about to start his 19th season at Connecticut, which will be without All-American Emeka Okafor, Ben Gordon and Taliek Brown, the three 1,000-point scorers who led the Huskies to their second national championship in April. Replacing them isn't Calhoun's biggest concern right now. Price is.

"I have no idea what's going to happen in terms of basketball, nor do I care," Calhoun said. "I care that A.J. walks out of the hospital and we will handle it after that point in time."

Price was complaining of flu-like symptoms and a headache when he was stricken. His condition has improved enough that on Thursday he was moved from the intensive care unit to a private room. He's listed as stable.

His teammates have not been allowed to visit him, but have gotten regular reports from Calhoun. On Friday, they heard the best news yet.

"He's doing real well," sophomore guard Marcus Williams said. "He's talking, standing up and walking around. Hopefully, we'll see him soon."

Price's roommate, Antonio Kellogg, also a freshman guard, said the two had forged a tight friendship and Price's absence has been hard on him.

"I just keep him with me in spirit and carry him with me and remember why he is not here and send my prayers to him," Kellogg said.

At Maryland, coach Gary Will-

iams made his usual spectacular entrance, this time driving onto the court in a NASCAR vehicle belonging to Donnie Neuenberger.

"I'm not nervous at all. I practiced a couple of times," Williams said about an hour before midnight. "It's driving a car. A little different car."

Calhoun drew the usual packed house of 8,700 to the event in Memorial Coliseum. Next year, it might be moved to 23,000-seat Rupp Arena.

"This is unique," Wildcats coach Tubby Smith said. "You don't find this at too many schools. That's why it's such a spectacle, such an event, such a happening."

Joe Crawford, a member of Smith's heralded recruiting class, dazzled the crowd with a double-pump reverse dunk and got a personal congratulation from actress Ashley Judd.

"He's been working on that all summer," Smith told the crowd.

Judd, a 1990 Kentucky graduate, then wandered onto the floor, microphone in hand.

"I'm Ashley," she said, drawing laughs. She then walked over to Crawford and shook his hand, flashing a movie-star smile.

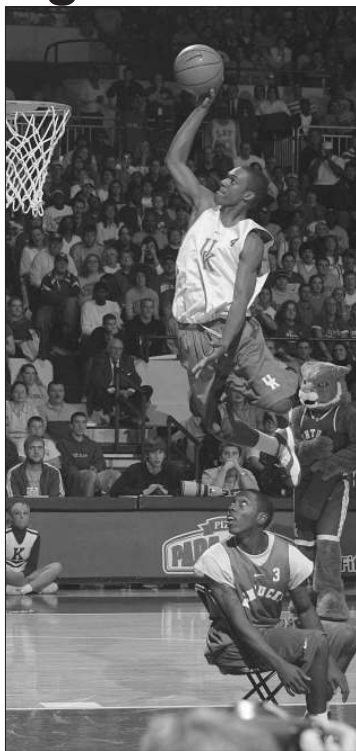
"Nice dunk," she said.

Indiana made a bit of a fashion statement as the Hoosiers donned new warmup shirts that featured the candy stripes that have been a trademark on their warmup pants.

Washington was one school that couldn't have its usual Midnight Madness. The Huskies have to hit the road for the first weekend of practice because of the world's richest man.

The Huskies will begin pre-season workouts at Evergreen College in Olympia, Wash., because Washington's gym is being used for an important campus fund-raiser. Microsoft chairman and co-founder Bill Gates is a featured speaker.

"This year, we wanted to do the Midnight Madness, but the man in the city — Bill Gates — is doing a million-dollar deal," guard Nate Robinson said Friday. "Hey, that's his thing. That's cool. We'll go to Evergreen."



Kentucky freshman Rajon Rondo vaults over fellow freshman Rameel Bradley for a dunk as the college basketball season officially opened in Lexington, Ky., with the Wildcats' Big Blue Madness early Saturday.

Davenport to become No. 1 despite semifinal loss

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Lindsay Davenport lost to defending champion Anastasia Myskina 6-4, 7-6 (7-1) Saturday in the Kremlin Cup semifinals but will still reach the No. 1 ranking next week.

Elena Dementieva defeated Elena Myskina 6-4, 7-5 in the other semifinal and will face Myskina in the first all-Russian final in the Kremlin Cup. Myskina is seeking her third title this season.

Davenport will reclaim the top spot in women's tennis from Amelie Mauresmo, who skipped the Kremlin Cup because of a strained thigh. Davenport was

Sports briefs

winded and had a headache in her loss to Myskina, the French Open champion.

"It's been a very, very long year and a long summer for me with a key match," said Myskina, the player who has won a season-record seven titles out of 20 tournaments this year.

Davenport, seeded second, hadn't dropped a set in her four previous matches against Myskina. The third-seeded Russian returned well and forced the Californian into long rallies.

"I desperately wanted to win today," Myskina said. "It helped me a lot that Lindsay was feeling sick while I have just recovered from a fever."

Seibu leads Japan Series

NAGOYA, Japan — Kazuhiko Wada hit a solo homer and Takashi Doi allowed two hits in seven innings Saturday as the Seibu Lions defeated the Chunichi Dragons 2-0 in Game 1 of the best-of-7 Japan Series.

Federer, Roddick, Hewitt pull out of Madrid Masters

MADRID, Spain — Roger Federer, Andy Roddick and Lleyton

Hewitt — the world's top three ranked players — pulled out of next week's Madrid Masters in another wave of withdrawals from the hard-court tournament.

Federer, ranked No. 1 and winner of three Grand Slam events this year, cited personal reasons and fatigue, organizers said. Roddick, No. 2, cited tendinitis in his left knee and Hewitt withdrew for personal reasons.

No. 6 Carlos Moya also withdrew because of a shoulder injury. Guillermo Coria, Gustavo Kuerten, Fabrice Santoro and Sebastian Grosjean pulled out earlier in the week.

The top-seeded player is now Tim Henman.

Canas, Lopez win in Vienna

VIENNA, Austria — Argentina's Guillermo Canas beat Tommy Haas of Germany 6-4, 6-3 Saturday to advance to the final of the CA Trophy.

The sixth-seeded Canas will face Spain's Feliciano Lopez, who beat Davide Sanguinetti of Italy 6-3, 6-3.

Shaughnessy loses

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Second-seeded Meghann Shaughnessy was hurt by poor serving and lost to 15-year-old Nicole Pietrangeli of the Czech Republic 6-1, 5-7, 7-6 (7-1) Saturday in the semifinals of the Tashkent Open.

Els, Westwood ahead in World Match Play

The Associated Press

VIRGINIA WATER, England — Titleholder Ernie Els overcame a dismal putting performance to forge a 3-up lead over an injured Padraig Harrington Saturday after 18 holes of their World Match Play semifinal.

Former champion Lee Westwood led Miguel Angel Jimenez 3-up halfway through the other semifinal, scoring an eagle-3 from 35 feet at the 12th and adding three successive birdies from the 15th to break open a tight contest.

Golf roundup

Earlier Saturday, Jimenez ended the challenge of his Ryder Cup captain Bernhard Langer on the 35th hole to earn his place in the final four.

Els missed six times from between five and eight feet over the first 16 holes. The first four stopped him from winning holes, the last two five-footers cost him the 15th and 16th and saw his lead reduced from 4-up to 2-up.

"I struggled to get to grips with the quicker pace more than anything," Els said.

Harrington injured his right thumb when his hand smashed into a tree on a follow-through Friday and he admitted he was 50-50 about playing the semifinal until he got to the practice range Saturday.

"I practiced with the thumb off the club and it's awkward chipping and putting," he said. "As it turned out, it was the short game that cost me more than the long game."

Fatigue may be Jimenez' problem against Westwood.

"I feel my legs want to go in different directions at the moment. I am tired but I still have a chance," he said having retired finished off his match against Langer.

"Bernhard played probably the best he played in the match and I thought we were



Ernie Els celebrates a birdie putt on the seventh hole during the HSBC World Match Play Championship on Saturday.

heading for extra holes," the Spaniard said.

Langer was pleased to make it close. "I fought hard. I was playing a lot better this morning," said the German, playing in his first event after a lengthy break caused by a wrist injury and the Ryder Cup captaincy.

"I need to work on my putting. I missed a few short ones and you can't afford to miss too many six-footers."

Jimenez and Langer, who upset World No. 1 Vijay Singh at the 37th hole in the rain-delayed first round Friday, resumed their delayed match on the 29th green with the Spaniard 3-up overnight.

Geiger holds 1-stroke lead

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Brent Geiger used a heat wrap to quell discomfort in his slipping and shot a bogey-free 67 Friday to give him a one-shot lead after the second round of the Chrysler Classic of Greensboro. His 11-under 133 was one shot better than 2001 PGA champion David Toms (65), Tom Pernice Jr. (68) and journeyman Jeff Brehaut (66).

"It's only Friday," Geiger said. "It's one of those things you just don't get too caught up in, especially with the holes coming in. You start thinking about other things, you can make a 6 or a 7 out here in a hurry."

At 14th on the U.S. PGA Tour money list, he needs a good week to avoid returning to qualifying school for the first time since 1996. Geiger's lone career victory came at Hartford in 1999 — the only previous time he played in the last group on weekend — and injuries have hampered him the past two years.

His best finish of 2004 is a tie for 14th at the Texas Open, and a victory here would make the one his father, Al, earned in 1976.

He and the rest of the field faced much more difficult conditions Friday, particularly in the afternoon when the wind kicked up and made club selection a guessing game. Fortunately, an early morning shower left the greens soft and receptive.

"It was tough, and it seemed to get worse as the day went on," said Toms, who tied Jerry Kelly for low round among the leaders. "It was a good score considering the conditions."

Kelly joined first-round leader Jason Dufrenoy (70), Joe Ogilvie (67), Tom Lehman (66) and Bo Van Pelt (69) in a group two shots back. Defending champion Shigeaki Maruyama had a 70 and fell five shots back.

David Love III, who redesigned the

greens at Forest Oaks Country Club before last year's tournament, finished at even-par 144 and missed the cut by three shots.

Park pulls away from field

PALM DESERT, Calif. — Grace Park followed her sensational first round with a steady, 5-under 67 Friday and opened a four-shot lead midway through the Samsung World Championship.

Park, who had perhaps the best round of her career with a 62 52 to begin the tournament, went to 15-under 129 through 36 holes at Bighorn Golf Club.

Shi Hyun Ahn, like Park a native of South Korea, and Karen Stupples matched 65s and were tied for second.

Three-time tournament champion Annika Sorenstam shot 68 and was tied for fourth, five shots off the lead, with Cristie Kerr (68), Lorena Ochoa (68) and Catriona Matthew (70).

Sorenstam, who had three birdies and one eagle, finished with a three-putt bogey on the final hole.

Amateur Michelle Wie matched par and was 17 shots back through two rounds. Wie, a 10th-grader in Honolulu, turned 15 on Monday, was ahead of only Laura Davies (147) in the select 20-player field.

Four tied at Sam Kirby event

SAN ANTONIO — Tom Kite, even after the front nine, made five birdies over his next seven holes for a 5-under 66 in the opening round of the SBC Championship.

"That left Kite, who has one victory on the Champions Tour in 1994, in a tie for the lead with playing partner Tom Jenkins, Dave Stockton and James Mason.

Jim Thorpe and Mark McNulty were one shot back, while points leader Hale Irwin and second champion Dana Quigley were a group of 13 at 68 at the Oak Hills Country Club.



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The Associated Press

MIAMI — A hearing on the lawsuit aimed at blocking the Montreal Expos' move to Washington, D.C. will be held in Miami on Dec. 6. That's the day before the capital's city council is scheduled to vote on millions of dollars in renovations to RFK Stadium to

MLB briefs

make it ready for next season.

U.S. District Court Judge Ursula Ungaro-Benages on

Friday set the hearing on the case for a preliminary injunction against the move sought by 14 former limited partners in the Expos.

The judge left open the possibility she would rule from the bench at the end of the hearing.

The partners sued in Miami federal court in July 2001 claiming major league baseball and commissioner Bud Selig fraudulently conspired with former Expos principal owner Jeffrey Loria to eliminate Montreal and allow him to buy the Florida Marlins. The injunction would halt the Expos' move pending trial on the merits of their claims.

Jeffrey Kessler, attorney for the minority partners, told the judge at Friday's status conference that if the arbitrators were to rule conclusively against the partners it is "very unlikely we'll proceed with the motion for preliminary injunction."

Loria and Marlins president David Samson, also a defendant

in the suit, and the minority partners were told in 2002 to resolve their dispute through arbitration. Major league baseball and Selig were not parties in the arbitration.

The arbitrators ended the hearing last Aug. 18 and said they planned to release their findings and rulings by Nov. 15.

The Dec. 6 hearing will leave Loria and Samson on the sidelines since it will only concern whether the Expos will be blocked from leaving Montreal. The Washington city council is scheduled to vote Dec. 7 on spending \$10 million to \$15 million on RFK renovations.

The minority partners sued after the Expos were bought in 2002 for \$120 million by baseball's other 29 teams, freeing Loria to buy the Marlins.

Guzman eligible for free agency

MINNEAPOLIS The Minnesota Twins declined their 2005 option on shortstop Cristian Guzman's contract Friday, making him eligible for free agency.

Guzman, who would've made \$5.25 million next year, hit .274 with eight home runs and 46 RBIs in his sixth major league season. He has been plagued by injuries since being named to the All-Star team in 2001.

A's decline option on Dye

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Oak-

land Athletics declined their contract options for next season on outfielder Jermaine Dye and left-hander Chris Hammond on Friday.

Dye batted .265 with 23 homers and 80 RBIs last season, and the A's decided the off-injured slugger wasn't worth his \$14 million mutual option for 2005. He will receive a \$5 million buyout.

Dye played just 65 games in 2002 after breaking his leg with a foul ball in the 2001 playoffs. He hit just .231 after the All-Star break in 2003, and he injured his left thumb and missed several important games for Oakland's playoff hopes.

Mets interview Jaramillo

NEW YORK — Texas Rangers hitting coach Rudy Jaramillo interviewed with the New York Mets on Friday, the team indicated to apply for the managerial opening since the firing of Art Howe.

The 54-year-old Jaramillo met with Mets general manager Omar Minaya, a longtime friend, and assistant GM John Ricco.

The Mets expect to interview New York Yankees bench coach Willie Randolph on Monday and former Anaheim Angels manager Terry Collins on Tuesday, Minaya said.

Former Toronto Blue Jays manager Carlos Tosca just interviewed with the Mets last Friday.



New York Yankees closer Mariano Rivera has three World Series rings and 31 career postseason saves.

Arms: Yankees rotation rounding into top form

ARMS, FROM BACK PAGE

"Somebody has to go out and pitch," Torre said. "You do what you can at this time of the year. Teams trying to get to the World Series, they have to find a way to get it done."

The Yankees are doing that. Their rotation, which was in disarray in the middle of the season, is getting better.

Kevin Brown, scheduled to start Saturday, appears to have overcome his many ailments this season, the most recent a broken hand caused by punching a clubhouse wall. Brown gave up one run in six innings during a playoff victory against Minnesota.

Jon Lieber is 6-0 with a 2.85 ERA in his past seven starts. Mussina has had two good playoff starts and is 4-1 with a 2.59 ERA in his past eight starts.

And the Yankees will get Orlando "El Duque" Hernandez back this weekend.

Hernandez had his first start of

these playoffs pushed back, probably to Sunday, because of Friday's rainout. Hernandez did not start in the series against the Twins because of a tired arm, related to his return from shoulder surgery in May 2003.

Hernandez was 8.0 with a 2.51 ERA in 13 starts before finishing the season with two poor outings. The Yankees believe the 15-day layoff allowed Hernandez to regain his arm strength.

"This is like a war," an overly dramatic Hernandez said through a translator. "They can injure you, but what's important is that you don't die."

In Hernandez, the Yankees get a pitcher who is 9-3 with a 2.51 ERA in 16 career postseason appearances.

The Red Sox have replaced Schilling with Derek Lowe, who was 14-12 with a 5.42 ERA during the regular season. Lowe was 2-3 with a 9.28 ERA in five starts against the Yankees this season.

The rich really do get richer.

Red Sox not ready to give up on injured Schilling just yet

BY JIMMY GOLEN

The Associated Press

BOSTON — With a balky ankle and tight shoes, Curt Schilling took the mound on Friday, throwing batting practice-speed pitches in the bullpen in steady rain.

And that was reason enough for the Boston Red Sox to be optimistic.

"He actually did pretty well — well enough where we're just leaving the door open for his season not to be over," Red Sox manager Terry Francona said Friday night after Game 3 of the ALCS was postponed by rain. "But that's the extent of it right now."

Boston trails 2-0 in the best-of-seven series against the New York Yankees. The game, if it's necessary, was rescheduled for Monday, but when the series resumes on Saturday the Red Sox will have a better idea whether their ace has made his last appearance in the playoffs.

"This is the first step, and the next step is to see how he shows up [Saturday]," Francona said. "And from there, then we'll see. ... The door hasn't been closed, but that's where we're at."

Schilling, who led the major leagues with 21 wins, lasted just three innings and 58 pitches while allowing six runs in Boston's 10-7 loss in Tuesday night's series opener. It was his poorest postseason performance since 1993.

Red Sox doctors said the sheath that covers two tendons in Schilling's right ankle is torn, allowing one of the tendons to slip out of its groove and rub against a bone. Schilling wasn't uncomfortable while pitching Tuesday because he was injected with a painkiller, but he wasn't able to push off the mound with his right leg, costing him velocity.

Schilling had a special high-cloth meal that would add sup-

port to his ankle and keep the tendon from moving. Two hours before the scheduled start of Game 3, he threw long toss in the outfield, then threw for about 15 minutes in the Red Sox bullpen, throwing from a high-top to low-top shoes to find the right fit.

"It worked good. It just hurt his toes," Francona said. "All that stuff and we got the wrong size."

Schilling has not been available for comment on either Thursday or Friday, but he called a local talk radio station on Thursday to say, "If I can't pitch without altering my mechanics, then we're going to have to win a World Series without me."

But Schilling's availability is crucial to Boston's hopes of making it past the Yankees to the World Series.

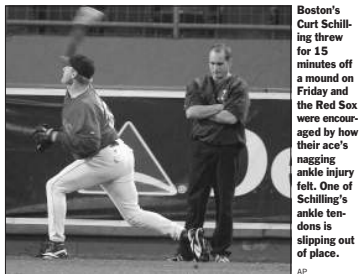
With the rainout, Bronson Arroyo was slated to pitch in Game 3 on Saturday, Tim Lincecum on

Sunday, Derek Lowe on Monday in Game 5 — the game that had been Schilling's to pitch.

That would have Pedro Martinez pitching on Tuesday in Game 6. If the series goes seven games and Schilling is not available, Arroyo, a 27-year-old without a full season in the majors, might have to pitch Game 7 at Yankee Stadium on short rest.

"Curt won 21 games and we won 90-something (98), so you have some pretty good guys," pitching coach Dave Wallace said. "I'm sure Curt would tell you the same thing. We've got some guys that are looking to step up."

If Martinez were brought back for Game 5 it would be on his normal four days' rest. But that would force Lowe to pitch in Yankee Stadium instead of at home. He has an 8-4 record with a 4.55 ERA at home and a 6-8 mark with a 6.21 ERA on the road this year. "We are trying to win the series," Francona said. "That will be how we make our decision, solely; not to extend the series, to get to a certain game, to be based on trying to win four games."



Boston's Curt Schilling threw for 15 minutes off a mound on Friday and the Red Sox were encouraged by how he pitched. His nagging ankle injury felt. One of Schilling's ankle tendons is slipping out of place.

Festive atmosphere fills dreary Boston

BY TOM YANTZ

The Hartford Courant

BOSTON — The sidewalks on Lansdowne Street were filled with tents, sleeping bags and lawn chairs Friday. Fans emerged from their temporary homes to throw baseballs and footballs in the area below the Green Monster seats at Fenway Park, four hours before the scheduled Game 3 of the Boston Red Sox-New York Yankees series.

"Why are we waiting in line? Why? Dedication. We all want to see the Sox," said Dave Millette, 48, of Key West, Fla. "I've been here since Thursday morning. My mother lives up in Rockland (Mass.) State."

Millette was the first in line outside Gate C. About 300 fans were lined up behind him. All were waiting and hoping to buy a ticket. But the game was sold out.

"Corporations, other teams turn the tickets back in," said Abel Russell, who had driven down Thursday from Bangor, Maine. "Then they're put up for sale. One ticket a person. You buy it at face value and then go right in. This is an improve-

ment from last year when you could buy two and then some people went out and scalped them. You can't do that this year."

Russell, a restaurant manager, said he was able to get two tickets for Game 4 of last year's ALCS.

Russell and his friend Matt Ceban, also from Bangor, slept in Russell's car Thursday night.

Millette, nicknamed "Captain Dave," wrote numbers with a red marker on the right hands of those behind him. Russell was No. 5, and Jeff Carson of Westford, Mass., was No. 11.

"If someone came in late and tried to sneak in up front — you know, just trying to blend in there — well, let's say just it wouldn't happen," Russell said. "I would guess that person would be injured."

Though the sky was dreary and the Red Sox trailed the Yankees 2-0, the atmosphere was festive.

A Red Sox comeback and profanity-laced descriptions of the Yankees were the talk in this part of town.

Visitors could justifiably question the en-

deavor. After all, it was a wait of 30 hours outdoors — the temperature dipped into the 40s Thursday night — with only a chance to purchase a ticket.

"We love the Sox," said Joshua Loughnott, a self-employed carpenter who has been in town since the end of the regular season. "I got a ticket for the last game of the Angels series last Friday. That's why we do this."

There even was a Yankees fan in line. "I drove from Syracuse. I did the same thing last year for the LCS and I saw Games 4 and 5," said Joshua Loughnott, wearing a military fatigue Yankees hat.

"I got a little scared [Thursday night]," said Loughnott, No. 15 in line. "Some Red Sox fans came by and I thought I'd get something poured on me or they'd jump me. But everything got cool. I've got this Ted Williams shirt on, which has helped out matters."

When the gates opened at 6:20 p.m. EDT, Captain Dave led his followers through Gate C. There were a few tickets available. Captain Dave, Russell and Loughnott were among the fortunate ones to buy them. But at 8:05 p.m., the game was postponed.

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

American League	Wednesday, Oct. 17
New York 10, Boston 7	Wednesday, Oct. 13
New York 3, Boston 1	Friday, Oct. 15
New York at Boston, p.d., rain	New York leads series 2-0
Saturday, Oct. 16	
New York (Bronx 10-9)	Arroyo 10-9
Sunday, Oct. 17	
New York (Hershey 8-2)	at Boston (Wakefield 12-10)
Monday, Oct. 18	
New York (Mussina 12-9)	at Boston (Lowe 14-12 or Martinez 16-8, if necessary)
Tuesday, Oct. 19	
Boston at New York, if necessary	
Wednesday, Oct. 20	
Boston at New York, if necessary	
National League	Wednesday, Oct. 13
St. Louis 10, Houston 4	St. Louis leads series 2-0
Thursday, Oct. 14	
St. Louis (Suppan 10-9)	at Houston (Clemens 18-4)
Saturday, Oct. 16	
St. Louis (Maddux 15-7)	at Houston (Swartz 20-10)
Sunday, Oct. 17	
St. Louis at Houston, if necessary	
Monday, Oct. 18	
Houston at St. Louis, if necessary	
Wednesday, Oct. 20	
Houston at St. Louis, if necessary	
Thursday, Oct. 21	
Houston at St. Louis, if necessary	
World Series	Thursday, Oct. 22
National League at American League	Series tied 0-0
NL at AL	Tuesday, Oct. 26
AL at NL	Wednesday, Oct. 27
AL at NL	Thursday, Oct. 28
AL at NL, if necessary	
NL at AL, if necessary	
Friday, Oct. 30	
Saturday, Oct. 31	
Sunday, Oct. 31	
NL at AL, if necessary	

Defense? It's in the Cards

Errorless defense helps St. Louis build playoff edge

By R.B. FALLSTROM

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Dominant hitting has been the St. Louis Cardinals' calling card this postseason. They're averaging six runs and two homers over six games, five of which they've won.

What's gone largely unnoticed as they've built a 2-0 lead over the Houston Astros in the NL championship series is their defense. They're the only team left in the postseason yet to commit an error.

This is not to say that other teams are exactly butchering plays in the field. The New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox had committed one error apiece entering Game 3 of the ALCS and the Astros had five.

Still, perfection is something else.

"Our defense comes up big night in and night out," center fielder Jim Edmonds said. "So we don't have to win offensively. We can get big outs when we need them on defense."

Four Cardinals won Gold Gloves last year. Edmonds is one of the best at pulling home runs out of the stands. Shortstop Edgar Renteria has great range and an arm to match. Catcher Mike Matheny has a good arm and is one

of the best at blocking balls in the dirt. Third baseman Scott Rolen is the best defensively that manager Tony La Russa has ever seen.

Right fielder Larry Walker has won seven Gold Gloves, giving the team a total of 22, including six for Edmonds, five for Rolen and two each for Matheny and Renteria.

Others can make the plays, too. Matheny, first baseman Albert Pujols and left fielder Reggie Sanders made defensive contributions to a 6-4 Game 2 victory on Thursday night. Matheny picked off Jeff Bagwell on a strikeout, producing a double play that defused a potential rally. Pujols swooped in on pinch-hitter Eric Bruntlett's sacrifice bunt attempt and turned it into an easy force-out at third that Rolen nearly turned into a double play.

And Sanders, never noted for his arm, tracked down Jose Vizcaino's drive to the gap, then wheeled and threw him out as he tried for a double. The key to the play was not slipping on wet grass in a game played in 48-degree weather and steady rain.

"I was able to keep my feet underneath me and not fall down," Sanders said. "My objective was just to get the ball in as fast as I could."

The Cardinals committed 97 er-

rors in the regular season, sixth-best in the NL. But so far, the postseason has been their time.

"You have to play different right now to win some games," Pujols said. "If we were better in the year, we need to get even better right now because if you make a mistake they can make you pay."

"You want to make sure you're on your toes."

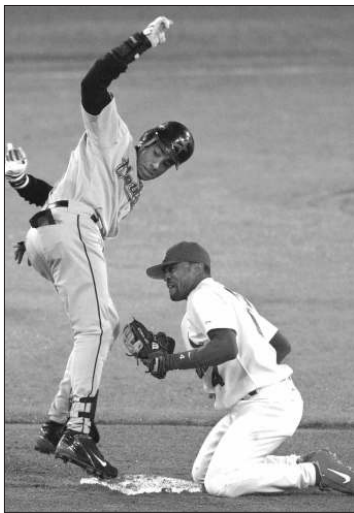
Two of the big plays came in the sixth to keep the Cardinals ahead 4-3. Sanders, who had six outfield assists in the regular season, threw out Vizcaino to start the inning. The next batter, Brad Ausmus, singled, and Bruntlett was trying to move him up a base.

Pujols was well in on the grass and ready to pounce when Bruntlett bunted.

"I knew that it had been running a lot," Pujols said. "I just want to make sure I get there, get the ball and just give it a good throw and try to get an out, not try and get a double play."

Matheny's work behind the plate minimized leadoff walks to Carlos Beltran and Bagwell by Matt Morris to start the third. On strike three to Jeff Kent, he caught Bagwell straying off first.

Matheny also caught Morgan Ensberg trying to steal second in the seventh after Ensberg had tied the game 4-4 with a single.



Houston's Jose Vizcaino pops up out of his slide, having already been tagged out by St. Louis' Tony Womack trying to stretch a single in the fourth inning of Friday night's Game 2 of the NLCS. St. Louis won 6-4.

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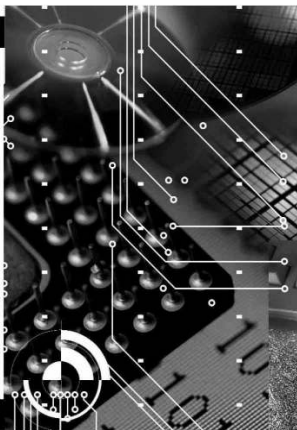
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Late TD lets Hanau slip past Vilseck

Stars and Stripes

Malcolm Lane's 6-yard touchdown run capped a 70-yard drive with two minutes to play Saturday to give visiting Hanau a 20-19 victory over Vilseck.

The victory gives the Panthers a home game for Saturday's Division II quarterfinal round.

Division II football

It was the second TD of the day for Lane, who carried 20 times for 88 yards as Hanau rallied from a 14-0 first-quarter deficit.

Vilseck coach Tim Connolly said special teams' play was a big factor on Saturday.

"Our kicking game killed us," he said. "We missed two extra points, got a kick blocked for a touchdown and let them return another punt to our 5-yard line."

Drew King blocked the punt, scooping it up and running in from the 12-yard line for Hanau's other TD.

Steven Tracy ran for 143 yards, including a 57-yard TD, for Vilseck (2-3 overall and 2-2 in II-South), which will travel to SHAPE on Saturday for a playoff game against the defending European D-II champion Spartans.

Jamaal Johnson had touchdown runs of 5 and 7 yards for Vilseck's other scores.

Hanau (3-2, 3-1) will host Bitburg on Saturday.

In other Division II games:

SHAPE 36, London Central 0: At SHAPE, Danny Camerena ran for 116 yards and two TDs as the Spartans closed the regular season 4-1 overall and 3-1 in Division II-Northern.

Camarena scored on a pair of 47-yard runs for SHAPE, which led 29-0 at halftime. The Spartans will host Vilseck to open its quest for a second-straight European D-II crown on Saturday.

Joe Puttman, Sean Corcoran and Richard Rendon added TD runs for SHAPE.

London Central, which moved up from D-III this season, fin-

ished its regular season 2-3 overall and 1-3 in II-North.

The Bobcats will travel to II-South champion Naples on Saturday to start the playoffs.

Bitburg 21, Mannheim 0: At Bitburg, Simon Shaw, Devin Gardner and Chris Rantos combined for 45 tackles as the Barons (3-2, 2-2) earned a trip to Hanau this Saturday to open the playoffs.

Brandon Morales and Josh Collette each picked off a pass for Bitburg. Alquel Hodges, Trey Wilson and Gardner, who carried 11 times for 82 yards, each ran for a TD.

Billy Westover had 11 tackles and a fumble recovery for Mannheim, which finished its season 0-5.

Naples 14, Aviano 13: At Naples, Jason McKechie's 2-yard touchdown run and Tyler White's extra point with 1:24 left in the game helped the Wildcats claim the II-South crown.

McKechie had a game-high 126 rushing yards as Naples overcame 65- and 20-yard TD passes from Sean Daniels to Carl Cephus. Mark Pearyard had two interceptions.

Naples improved to 4-1 overall and 3-1 in conference play.

Aviano ends its season 1-4, 0-4.

ISB 26, Patch 18: At International School of Brussels, Philip Lippman ran for 137 yards and two TDs, and Drew Thielen added 103 yards and a TD to allow the unbeaten Raiders to overcome a big passing day by Patch's J.D. Lindsay.

Lindsay was 17-for-27 for 301 yards and two TDs in the non-conference game between a pair of teams who'll meet again at ISB on Saturday in the playoffs.

Lindsey, who had TD passes of 67 yards to Neal Griffin and 27 to Matt Carr, rushed for 74 yards on seven carries.

Lindsay, however, also threw a pair of interceptions, one to Andrew Vanderlin and the other to Drew Gilliam. Gilliam's interception late in the game on the ISB 25 finally put away Patch (2-3).

and will travel to Ansbach to open the playoffs.

Rota 40, Alcnbury 14: At Rota, Joseph Casey rushed for 309 yards and five touchdowns on 18 carries and returned a punt 35 yards for another TD as the Admirals secured second place in Division III-A.

Casey's runs helped Rota (3-2 overall and 1-1 in III-A) roll up 456 yards of offense. Rota travels to Baumholder on Saturday for the playoffs.

Alcnbury, which got an 88-yard kickoff return for a TD from Andrew Hunt and a 1-yard TD plunge from Ben Davis, fell to 0-5, 0-2 and missed the playoffs.

Mennigh Hill 47, Brussels 24: At Brussels, Mike Bailey ran for 141 yards and two touchdowns, and Shawn Adams ran for two TDs and caught a 25-yard pass for a third score as the III-A champion completed its regular season undefeated.



RAYMOND T. CONWAY/Stars and Stripes

Wiesbaden's Paul Fry carries Kaiserslautern's Madison Hayes on his back for a 3-yard touchdown run Saturday in Wiesbaden, Germany. Wiesbaden defeated Kaiserslautern 31-17.

Wiesbaden holds off K-town in D-I

Stars and Stripes

Lones Sieber grabbed a pair of touchdown passes from Aaron Orr and kicked a 50-yard field goal as Wiesbaden defeated visiting Kaiserslautern 31-17 on Saturday.

Shannon McCray returned a punt 57 yards for a TD as the Warriors (4-1, 3-1) stayed a game behind Heidelberg in the Division I race.

Paul Fry carried 19 times for 138 yards for Wiesbaden, which closes its regular season Saturday at home against Lakenheath.

Danny Morris threw a 40-yard TD pass to Mike Morgan, but he was intercepted twice by Robert Edwards and once by Chad Kelly.

Kaiserslautern fell to 1-4 overall and 1-3 in D-I. The Red Raiders will be battling for a playoff spot at Ramstein on Saturday.

In other Division I action Saturday:

Division I

Heidelberg 32, Ramstein 7: At Heidelberg, Lewis Allen ran for 236 yards, and sophomore Nick Trice caught three touchdown passes as Heidelberg clinched the Division I regular-season title.

Joseph Conway kicked a pair of field goals, and Chris Jones ran for a TD as Heidelberg improved to 5-0 overall and 4-0 in D-I going into Saturday's regular-season finale, at home against Würzburg.

Ramstein's score came on a second-quarter TD run by Mark Stephenson.

Matt Koedde had a sack, a fumble recovery and 11 tackles for Heidelberg. Chris Jones had 14 stops.

The Royals' defense was led by Matt Slaymaker's 17 unassisted tackles and a fumble recovery.

The defending European champion Royals — 2-3 overall and 1-3 in Division I — will host to Kaiserslautern on Saturday to close the regular season.

Würzburg 38, Lakenheath 17: At Lakenheath, Iona Teripiaia threw for 224 yards and two touchdowns as Würzburg defeated Lakenheath.

The Wolves improved to 2-3 overall, 2-2 in D-I and clinched a playoff berth.

Teripiaia, who was 12 of 19 to help the Wolves amass 518 yards, connected with Joel Marbut and Jason Fleck for TD passes.

Derrick Davis rushed for 218 yards on 31 carries and a TD.

Lakenheath (1-4, 1-3) led 17-14 at halftime, but the Würzburg defense, led by 21 solo tackles from Peter Lopez, held the Lancers in check after intermission.

Darren Mercer topped Lakenheath with 92 yards for 16 carries.

Ansbach wins 21st straight game, claims Div. III-C crown

Stars and Stripes

James Esters ran for 143 yards and two touchdowns on just six carries Saturday as the Ansbach Cougars claimed the Division III-C conference championship at home with a 37-6 victory over the Vicenza Cougars.

Division III football

It was Ansbach's 21st consecutive victory.

Esters scored on runs of 28 and 74 yards as Ansbach closed its regular season 5-0 overall and 2-0 in III-C. The Cougars amassed 422 rushing yards in just 29 attempts.

Damien Outley had 100 yards on eight carries, including a 31-yard TD run, and freshman Dominique Whaley had 96 yards on five rushes. Whaley scored on a 34-yard run in the first quarter as Ansbach

beat jumping to a 20-6 lead.

Mike Ewing kicked a 24-yard field goal for Ansbach, which got its other TD on a 2-yard run by Taurian Moore. The Cougars will host AFNORTH on Saturday to open its quest for a third straight European D-III crown.

Kevin Carpenter scored on a 3-yard run for Vicenza (2-3 overall and 0-2 in III-C), which ended its season.

In other D-III games on Saturday:

Sigonella 12, AFNORTH 6: At Sigonella, Michael Petty scored on a 71-yard run and a 57-yard pass from Keenan Jones as the Jaguars (3-2, 2-0) claimed the III-B crown.

B.J. Washington picked off a pair of AFNORTH passes, and Larkin Lader, who was in on 10 tackles, recovered a fumble for Sigonella, which will entertain III-C runner-up Hohenfels this week.

AFNORTH, which got 184 yards in 29 carries from Kyle Winn, fell to 2-3 overall

and will travel to Ansbach to open the playoffs.

Rota 40, Alcnbury 14: At Rota, Joseph Casey rushed for 309 yards and five touchdowns on 18 carries and returned a punt 35 yards for another TD as the Admirals secured second place in Division III-A.

Casey's runs helped Rota (3-2 overall and 1-1 in III-A) roll up 456 yards of offense. Rota travels to Baumholder on Saturday for the playoffs.

Alcnbury, which got an 88-yard kickoff return for a TD from Andrew Hunt and a 1-yard TD plunge from Ben Davis, fell to 0-5, 0-2 and missed the playoffs.

Mennigh Hill 47, Brussels 24: At Brussels, Mike Bailey ran for 141 yards and two touchdowns, and Shawn Adams ran for two TDs and caught a 25-yard pass for a third score as the III-A champion completed its regular season undefeated.

Mennigh Hill (5-0, 2-0), which led 23-0 at halftime, also got a 60-yard TD run from Terry Cuddy and a 20-yard field goal from Ryan Gimney. The Mustangs host III-D runner-up Bamberg to open the D-III playoffs on Saturday.

Eric Popp, who had 110 yards on 12 carries, ran 18 yards for one score for Brussels, which finished its season 1-4 overall and 0-2 in III-B. The Brigands missed the playoffs.

Matthew Parker, who led all rushers with 152 yards, added an 81-yard TD run. Mike Healy tossed a 15-yard TD pass to Ryan Proietto for the Brigands' other TD.

Baumholder 1, Giessen 0 (forfeit): At Giessen, an insufficient number of players forced Giessen to forfeit its homecoming game against the Baumholder Bucs.

Baumholder (4-1, 2-0) wins the III-D conference title and will host III-A runner-up Rota in the European D-III quarterfinals on Saturday.

NHL lockout strikes a chord in Canada

BY DAVID CRARY

The Associated Press

MONTREAL — Instead of the beloved Canadiens, rock bands Van Halen and Incubus will be playing soon at the Bell Centre. "Hockey Night in Canada" — must-TV viewing for Yanks from Newfoundland to Yukon — has been replaced by a triple bill of Hollywood films, starting off with Disney's "Dinosaur."

In a country where hockey rouses passions almost unfathomable to outsiders, the shutdown of the National Hockey League, perhaps for the entire season, is generating bitterness, awkward adjustments and a deep sense of loss.

Fans in the United States might be frustrated by the owners' lockout of players in a bid to rein in payrolls, but America offers an array of other big-time pro and college sports. North of the border, where the NHL is the only major league operating outside Toronto, Canadians face a winter of discontent without a sport woven into the national identity.

"The prevailing mood is that they're all wrong — the owners were foolish to pay the players so much money, and the players are greedy," said Roy MacGregor, author of several popular books about Canadian hockey.

"There's no sympathy for either side, but we'll miss the game

that we love," he said. "There's a void."

The lockout's impact is profound, emotionally and financially.

Business is certain to plummet at restaurants, bars and sports shops around the arenas; some social programs could suffer because they get funds from provincial sports lotteries dependent on NHL wagering.

Of Canada's six NHL cities, Montreal is perhaps the hardest hit.

Not only are the Canadiens the league's most celebrated franchise, but the lockout comes just after Major League Baseball confirmed the Expos' departure for a home in Washington, D.C.

"The Canadiens are now the only major sport here, so people are extremely passionate," said team spokesman Donald Beauchamp. "They want the system to be fixed. They want hockey."

The Canadiens' 150 full-time employees have been assigned four-day weeks to reduce salaries. About 1,000 part-timers who work at the Bell Centre during games have been laid off.

"Those are the people really affected," said Beauchamp, noting that many of the ushers, ticket-takers and vendors are students or retirees badly in need of extra income.

On a game night, whether the

Canadiens are home or away, fans endure long outdoor waits to jam into La Cage Aux Sports, a vast two-story sports bar at the Bell Centre. On Wednesday evening, when the Canadiens would have been opening their season at Ottawa, only a handful of tables were occupied, and baseball, not hockey, filled the giant TV screens.

"It's dead," said waiter Alexander Tellier, 28. "The difference is like night and day."

There have been no layoffs so far, Tellier said, but there are shorter working hours. Tellier expects his earnings to be halved.

Disillusionment is particularly high among young fans — like Yoni Troy, a 7-year-old Montrealer who plays hockey once a week and adores the Canadiens.

"It's so cheap that there's no hockey," he said. "I thought, 'Why do they play for money? I thought they played because they liked hockey.'"

In Ottawa, the lockout has dismayed the young patients and staff at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, which normally gets fund-raising help from the Ottawa Senators, treasured visits by many of the players and hundreds of free tickets for ailing children — often issued as a reward for completing onerous treatment regimens.

"We're feeling the loss," said hospital spokeswoman Marie Be-

langer. "A lot of kids are asking if they're going to a game this year, and we have to say, 'We don't know.'"

For TV broadcasters, the lockout has forced a scheduling scramble. Sports channel TSN is replacing canceled games with matches from past decades; the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. is laying off 50 "Hockey Night in Canada" employees and will replace the popular Saturday night fixture with a three-film "Movie Night in Canada."

Saturday's season-opening offerings: "Dinosaur," "Raiders of the Lost Ark" and "Jaws."

"We acknowledge the drop in ratings will be challenging," said CBC spokeswoman Ruth-Ellen Soles.

At Canadian newspapers, some

hockey writers are wondering if they might be moved to non-sports beats.

In Edmonton, however, that's not an issue for now. The Oilers shifted their minor league affiliate, the Road Runners, to their home rink — selling more than 5,000 season tickets and getting almost as much local media attention as the parent club would have received.

But Edmonton is one of only four Canadian cities with American Hockey League franchises, along with Hamilton, Ontario, St. John's, Newfoundland, and Winnipeg, Manitoba. For the rest of

the country, the best available hockey will be provided by locked-out NHLers in charity games or by the 56 teams in Canada's major junior leagues, which groom players aged 16 to 20 for pro careers.

The lockout might prove a mixed blessing for junior hockey. Some teams hope it will boost ticket sales; others dread the loss of NHL development funds.

The Quebec lottery — which depends heavily on sports betting — caused a furor by replacing canceled NHL games with junior league games in its lucrative Mise-O-Jeu contest. The decision was quickly reversed as Loto-Quebec officials acknowledged the unsavory prospect of gamblers trying to corrupt teenage players making only \$40 a week in meal money.

Another option for Quebec fans is the 10-team North American Hockey League, which encourages on-ice fights and features several former NHL enforcers. The league has won a television contract and dates for two games at the 21,273-seat Bell Centre.

All six of Canada's NHL franchises performed well in 2003-04, with only Edmonton — by a narrow margin — failing to make the playoffs. So a season that Canadian fans eagerly anticipated is now in jeopardy; some worry that the Stanley Cup may not be awarded for the first time since a flu epidemic halted the 1919 final.



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SPORTS



While its powerful lineup gets attention, St. Louis' defense produces regularly, Page 43



Boston's Pedro Martinez pitched well in Game 2 of the ALCS, but the Yankees have won 10 of the past 12 games he has started against them.

AP

Yanks winning the arms race

New York's starting rotation is tops among baseball's final four

BY GERRY FRALEY

The Dallas Morning News

BOSTON — October is the harshest month for starting pitchers.

Bodies ache. Arms are worn out.

What worked in the summer is no longer there. The snap is gone. "You're pitching on fumes," New York Yankees manager Joe Torre said.

That is why the New York Yankees, leading the American League championship series 2-0, will finish off Boston and should win the World Series. A rainout of Friday's game at Fenway Park only delayed the inevitable and added to the Yankees' advantage.

At a time when the remaining clubs are desperate for innings from starters, the Yankees have emerged again with the deepest and best rotation.

Their rotation ERA for six playoff games is 3.76. Among the clubs that reached the playoffs, Minnesota has the second-best postseason rotation ERA (4.63). The Yankees sent the Twins

■ Sox optimistic after Schilling's throwing session, Page 42

Commentary

home for the winter last week.

Of the remaining clubs, St. Louis has the second-best rotation ERA (4.72). The starting staff of Boston and Houston each has a ERA of more than 5.00.

If the ALCS goes the distance, the teams will play on five consecutive days. The Yankees are far better equipped for that than the Red Sox.

"They've said we haven't had pitching all year," Yankees starter Mike Mussina said. "That's what everybody said, and we won 101 games."

The total is up to 106 wins. When the Yankees finish with 112 wins, the final total if they win the World Series, credit the rotation.

Some rotations get worse as October progresses.

Boston hoped to have ace Curt Schilling for as many as three starts in this series. Schilling is probably finished after losing the opener because of a dislocated tendon in his right ankle, a condition that will require postseason surgery.



AP

In two postseason starts, Yankees starter Mike Mussina is 1-1 with a 3.95 ERA. He has given up six runs, 11 hits and one walk while striking out 15 in 13 2/3 innings. He is 4-1 with a 2.59 ERA in his past eight starts.

"When the season started, all the talk was about Curt and Pedro (Martinez) being the one-two punch," Yankees center fielder Bernie Williams said. "It seems like it has turned out that when they have needed (Schilling) the most, he might not be

available. So that obviously is going to play in our favor."

The Yankees will take it.

They went through something similar during last year's World Series against Florida.

As the national anthem played before the fifth game, pitching

coach Mel Stottlemyre tugged on Torre's jersey. David Wells, the scheduled starter, might not make it, Stottlemyre whispered.

Wells pitched only one inning, putting the Yankees at a disadvantage they could not overcome.

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Shanahan's presence intensifies rivalry between Broncos and Raiders

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High school football teams scramble for playoff position

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Going for 20 in a row, Patriots square off against Seahawks

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